

KCS **AAPI** Art Competition

Gallery Booklet

Over 70+
entries!

Come see how our **AAPI**
youth interpret this year's
theme, "**My Legacy,
My Hope, My Future.**"

KCS **AAPI** Art Competition

Gallery Booklet

Spring 2026 | ISSUE 02



Contents

04

Theme

06

Welcome Message

08

Meet the Judges

10

Awardees List

11

Gallery

Grand Prize

Category Awardees

Honorable Mentions

Participants

22

Acknowledgements



The theme for this year's **AAPI** Art Competition, **"My Legacy, My Hope, My Future,"** asks students to demonstrate the importance of pursuing their own goals and passions to shape their sense of purpose. The journey to find these goals or passions does not happen overnight, but small goals like joining a club, an internship, or a job prepares one for their passion and, most importantly, their future.

For **AAPI** youth, this theme allows a space to reflect on their position in society and how they will continue to grow. Their artwork reveals how their passions, accomplishments, hardships, or emotions intertwine with their visions of hope, legacy, and future. While life is unpredictable and often volatile, the theme emphasizes that achieving an ideal future requires living authentically rather than conforming to others' expectations.

About: **My Legacy,** **My Hope, My Future**



“My Legacy, My Hope, My Future” asks beyond one’s legacy, hope, and future by challenging the artist to reflect on themselves and to consider how their personal truth and lived experience shape the impact they leave on the world. Though no one knows what is at the top of the mountain, it is through climbing, through effort, reflection, and resilience, that one begins to envision what is possible.



Korean Community Services (KCS)

A Message of Congratulations from Our President & CEO

Dear Artists, Families, and Supporters,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 **AAPI** Art Ceremony & Showcase, presented by Korean Community Services (KCS).

As President & CEO of KCS, I want to recognize all the students who participated in this special statewide competition, held in celebration of **AAPI Heritage Month**. Open to **AAPI** students in grades 1 through 12, the contest received over – submissions from across New York State. Your work around the theme “**My Legacy, My Hope, My Future**” reflects resilience, creativity, and a deep understanding of identity. Expressing aspirations for the future through art reveals that moving forward requires security with where you stand. Through your artwork, you have expressed the beauty and complexity of **AAPI** experiences and offered perspectives that deserve to be seen, shared, and valued.

This event honors your voice, your heritage, and the ideas you have chosen to express through art. At KCS, we are proud to support you as you share your story and help broaden understanding across generations and communities.

Thank you to all the families, educators, and supporters who nurtured these young artists along the way. We look forward to continuing this important work together.

With gratitude,



Myoungmi Kim



Meet the Judges



Kimmy Ma

Teaching Artist | Doctoral Researcher

Designing relational art learning where dialogue, identity, and imagination meet, Kimmy Ma, a doctoral researcher in Educational Leadership, brings over 20 years of experience creating meaningful art experiences for young people and families. She holds a Master of Arts from New York University and earned executive education credentials from Columbia Business School.

Grounded in the belief that art is in our DNA, she approaches teaching artistry as a way to honor each student's voice, lived experience, and creative journey.



Victoria Cho

Writer | Educator

Victoria Cho is a writer and educator. Her work has appeared in Joyland, The Offing, SmokeLong Quarterly, Apogee Journal, Word Riot, the anthology Nonwhite and Woman (Woodhall Press 2022), and elsewhere. She is the recipient of fellowships from Loghaven, Sunlit, Constance Saltonstall Foundation for the Arts, Kundiman, VONA/Voices, and Vermont Studio Center.

Victoria previously worked in social services and has been a juror for New York State Council on the Arts, Brooklyn Arts Council, and Queens Arts Council. Born and raised in Virginia, she lives in New York City.



S.H. Kim

Professional Artist | Educator

S.H. Kim is a New York-based painter and educator. He received his MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and has exhibited internationally in cities including New York, London, Madrid, and Seoul.

Awardees List

Grand Prize

Miyu Osanai
Grade 7

Category Awardees

Elementary School

Yuhan Xie
Grade 5

Middle School

Eliana Uy
Grade 6

High School

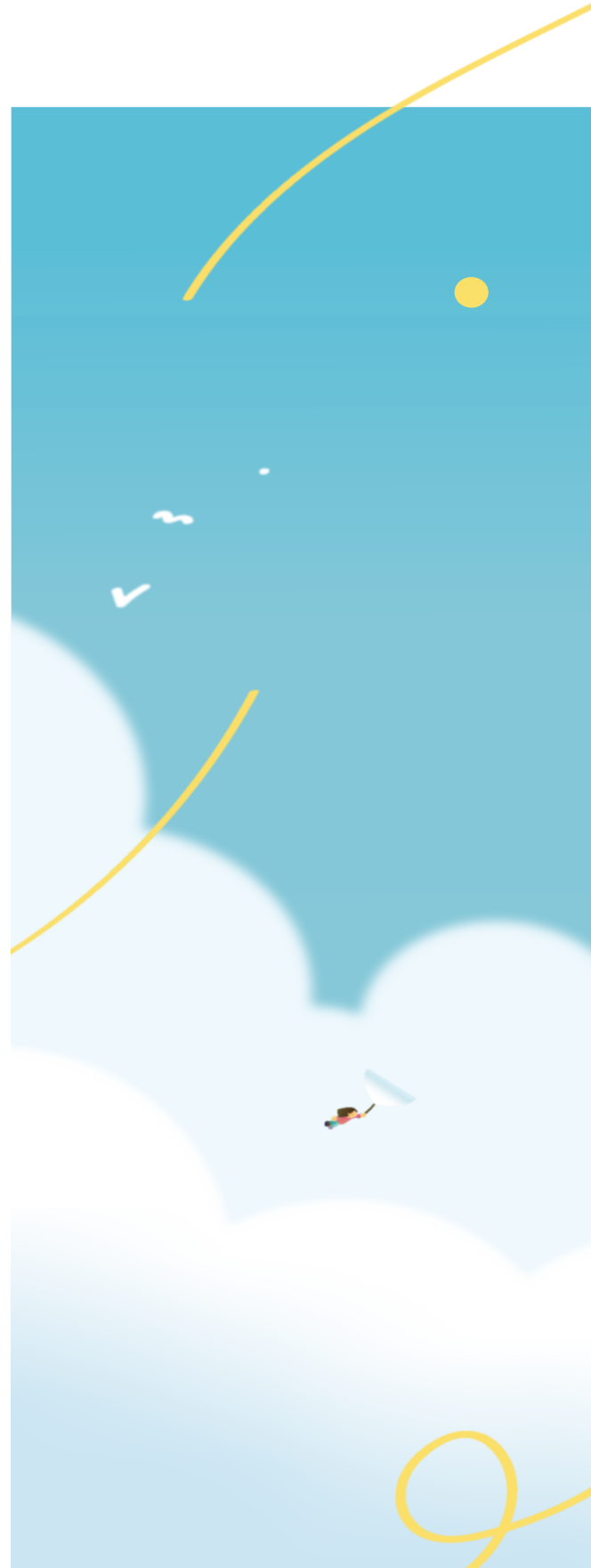
Elan Isaacs
Grade 12

Honorable Mentions

Irene He
Grade 2

Luo (Ella) Jung
Grade 8

Chloe Yong
Grade 12



Grand Prize



Stars for Tomorrow
Pencil, Colored Pencil, and Acrylic

Miyu Osanai | Grade 7

I expressed my inherited legacy as a completed puzzle, each piece showing memories and people shaping me. By drawing, I create new pieces representing my hopes and future. The stars symbolize infinite possibilities from which I will choose to create my own path.

Category Awardees



Through My Eyes
Colored Pencil and Ink

Yuhan Xie | Grade 5

This artwork shows my world inside an eye. The cello player and objects represent my life, interests, and identity. It shows how I see the world in my own way.

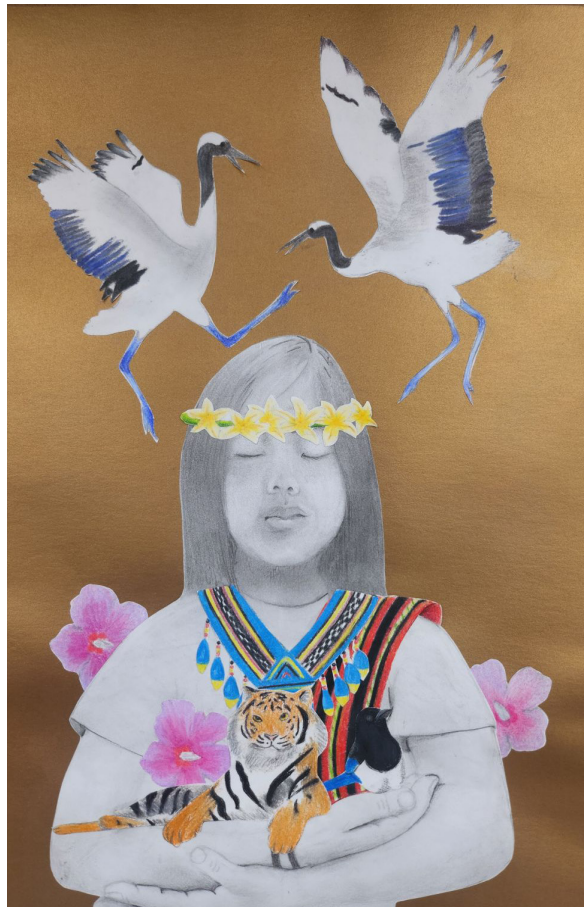


Peace in Culture
*Pencil, Colored Pencil,
 Glue, and Poster Board*

Eliana Uy | Grade 6



This artwork is meant to show how my culture as a Filipino and Korean make me proud of who I am. I am at peace with who I am and let my cultures surround me as I carry them, for they are passed down to me from my ancestors.



Pull to Bloom
Toned Paper, Graphite, Charcoal, China Marker, Oil Pastel, Pen, Newspaper, and Yarn

Elan Isaacs | Grade 12

My work presents two self portraits: one a physical depiction, and the other not. I'm proud of my Central Asian heritage and the resilient people who came before me. I still face misconceptions, but the seed shows me reclaiming what was suppressed and growing toward a future of clearer understanding.

Honorable Mentions



My Magic World of East and West
Marker and Pencil

Irene He
Grade 2

I drew magical animals from Asian legend and Western myth all living together in one bright world. They fly in the same sky and watch over me while I read and imagine stories. This shows my family's culture and my hope that everyone can be friends and share one future.



Letters to: Ella
Mixed Media

Luo (Ella) Jung
Grade 8

The act of gift-giving is my all time favorite way of showing love, mainly through letters and cards.

My work reflects the experience of looking back on years of meaningful messages, honoring the people who have shaped my life while embracing what lies ahead in my future years of life.





Family Dumplings
Digital

Chloe Yong
Grade 12

Bonded by the craft of making dumplings, a mother prepares her daughter to lead their family restaurant. This scene illustrates Chinese heritage being passed down, shifting a simple recipe into a living legacy of hope and a promise for the future.



Participants



My Future as an Astronaut
Jay Kim
Grade 1



Growing Love
Vivian Sobo
Grade 3



My Balloon Family
Elisa Li
Grade 2



My World
Josiah Uy
Grade 3



Declan's Life Story
Declan Crimmins
Grade 2



My World Bridged
Logan Schneider
Grade 1



Painting My Korean American Story
Alyssa Lee
Grade 2



Skating Like a Queen
Celine Hah
Grade 3



Girl Under Cherry Blossom Tree
Emily Paik
Grade 3



The Flying Man
Enzo Hah
Grade 1



Then, Now, Later
Charles You
Grade 1



All About Me
Bethany Pai
Grade 3



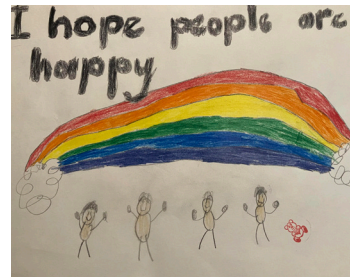
I Want to Grow Up!

Logan Choe
Grade 2



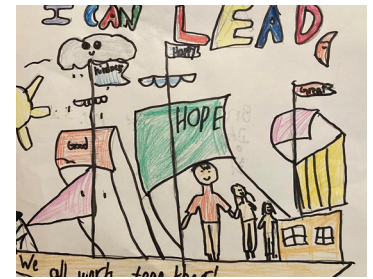
The Future of My Dream

Luka Allié Aizaki
Grade 3



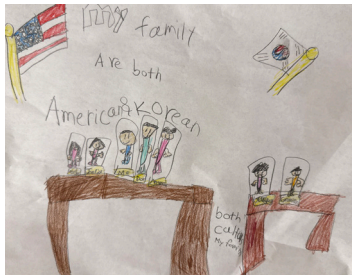
Happiness

Augusto Yosup Chwe
Grade 1



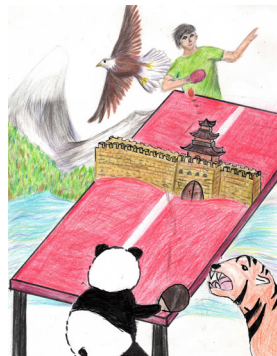
I Can Lead

Bruno Kwangsup Chwe
Grade 3



My Family's Culture

Theodore Yang
Grade 3



Ping Pong and I

Theodore Cai
Grade 4



My Future

Chloe Hong
Grade 2



My Legacy

Landon Chung
Grade 3



A Song

Jueun Seo
Grade 2



My Future

Iona Bae
Grade 3



Giant Donut

Christopher Dean
Grade 3



Future and the Past

Chloe Chae
Grade 3



Celestial Heritage: Journey Across the Generations
Anqi Angela Fu
Grade 3



Korean Art
Claire Lee
Grade 3



My Future
Celina Lee
Grade 1



Ice Skating Olympics
Olivia Kim
Grade 4



Where My Dreams Begin
Jaein Harper Nam
Grade 2



Shine Bright
Ellia Lee
Grade 3



Connections to My Roots
Minseo Kang
Grade 6



Through the Fog
Alexander Yong
Grade 7



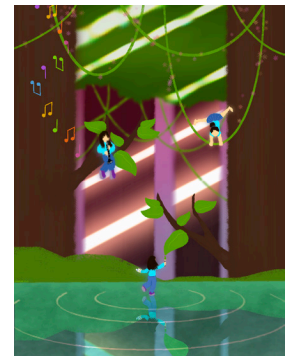
Unwavering Passions and Dreams
Zoe Chen
Grade 7



Modern Hojokdo
Erin Kim
Grade 7



Dancing into New York Light
Corinna You
Grade 6



The Vibrant Jungle of Our Community
Caroline Chiu
Grade 7



Namaste America

Dia Kukreja
Grade 7



Field of Hopes and Dreams

Arielle Park
Grade 7



Dreaming Through Hopelessness

Renee Baik
Grade 7



Death Pungmul

Evelyn Choi
Grade 11



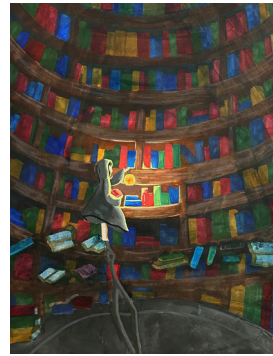
Roots from the Past, Growth of the Future

Tammy Xie
Grade 10



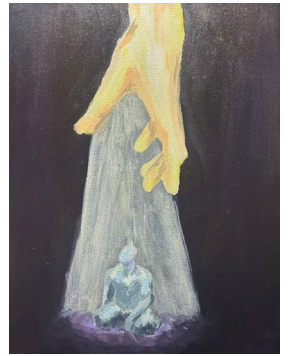
My Leading Figures

Lena Park
Grade 9



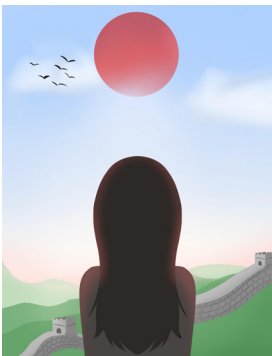
Light Seeker

Yanfei Chen
Grade 10



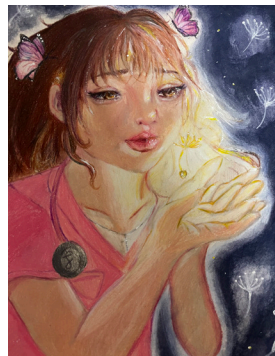
Look Up

Kyle Jung
Grade 10



Beyond the Horizons

Zhengdi Li
Grade 12



Spreading Seeds of Hope

Jenna Kim
Grade 10



3 Key Values

Alisher Rakhmatov
Grade 11



Cultural Confluence

Anahata Mitra Khurana
Grade 9



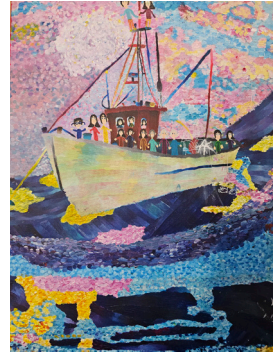
Fighting Spirit

Emily Mooney
Grade 12



Roar of Legacy

Lily Lin
Grade 12



Sailing With My Family

Ian Ryou
Grade 10



Blossoming Samtaegeuk

Ara Ko
Grade 9



The Silent Hour

Victoria Deng
Grade 9

Acknowledgements

KCS Education Department (NY)

Teresa Baik
Director

Seungmin (Kathy) Kim-Cho
Senior Program Manager

Alicia Chum
Senior Program Coordinator

Sophia Shi
Program Coordinator/Designer

Jieun Baek
Program Coordinator

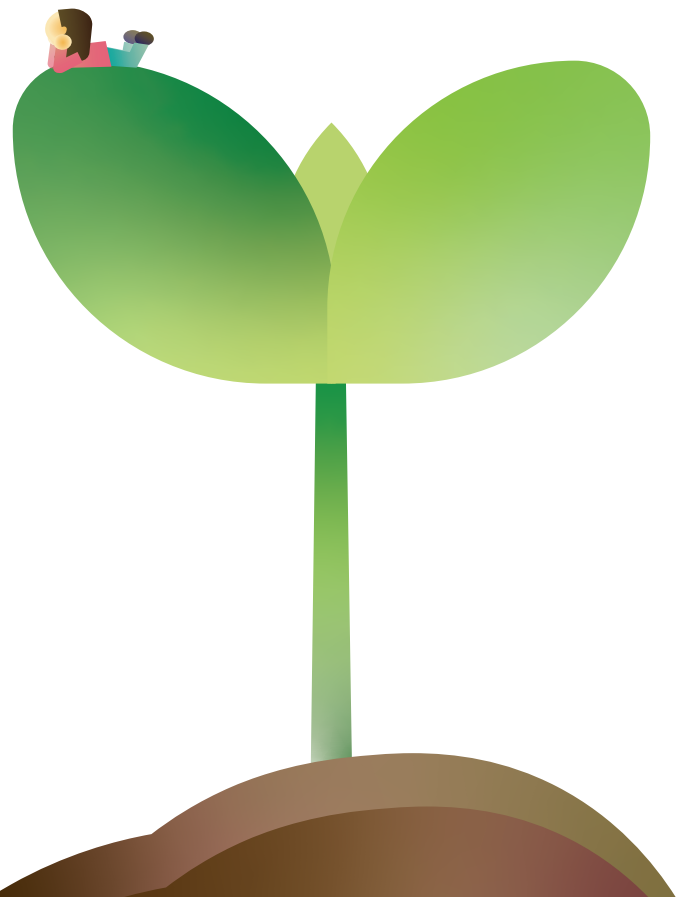
Sue Mak
Program Coordinator

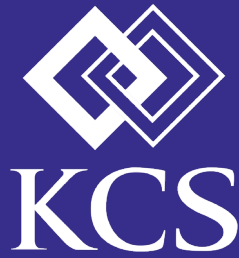
Sion Yang
Program Coordinator

Gawhara Abou-eid
Program Coordinator

Christopher Lee
Program Assistant

Geumsuk Yun
Program Assistant





Supporting Our Community Since 1973

KCS envisions a world where immigrant communities remain grounded in their heritage and work together with the broader community to build a better society at large.



Education



Aging



Mental Health Clinic



Public Health & Research
Center



Workforce Development



718-939-6137

www.kcsny.org

203-05 32nd Ave. Bayside, NY 11361



KCS Education Department Programs



ESOL Classes

Free adult literacy English classes
무료 성인 ESOL 프로그램
免费成人英语班



Citizenship Classes

Free citizenship classes
무료 시민권 인터뷰 준비 프로그램
免费公民入籍辅导班



YASP (Young Adult Service Program)

Summer internship opportunities for high school & college students
여름 방학 고등학생과 대학생 인턴십 프로그램
高中生及大学生暑期实习机会



Scholarship Program

For graduating high school seniors of Korean heritage, supported by Dr. Lee Hoon 이훈 박사 후원의 한국계 12학년 고등학생을 위한 장학 프로그램
专为韩裔高中应届毕业生设立 (由李勋博士资助)



Korean Language Classes

Adult Korean classes over a 10 week period
무료 성인 한국어 프로그램
为期10周的成人韩语班



Cultural Programs

AAPI cultural programs & education
AAPI 문화 프로그램과 문화 교육 프로그램
亚裔及太平洋岛民 (AAPI) 文化项目与教育

Visit our
Website!



education@kcsny.org



718-939-6137