

ECISD names art contest winners

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The **National Fossil Day** 2021 Art Contest information is a project introduced to Ector County Independent School District teachers by the ECISD Innovation Department. It is just what it sounds like; artwork based on fossils promoting paleontology and interest in preserving fossils for future generations.

Out of all of the submissions, our Innovation Office presented district awards to two lower elementary students; five upper elementary students, five middle school students; four high school students; and four staff members.

There were two district awards and that were honored during the ECISD Board of Trustees meeting on Nov. 16.

>> **Lyzandra Casarez**, 11th grader at George H.W. Bush New Tech Odessa; first place among ECISD high school students and district student winner.

>> **Melissa Hernandez**, Burleson K-Bilingual teacher; district staff winner and third place in **national** contest; as a **national** finalist Hernandez's entry is posted to the **National Fossil Day** website.

The theme this year is "Prehistoric Life from our **National** Parks and Monuments!"

For this theme, contest participants need to select one or more **fossil** representative, prehistoric organism, and/or prehistoric scene from one or more **National** Park Service sites. The artwork could be a photograph (black & white or color), a painting, a drawing, or a sketch. The entry form that accompanies the artwork must include the name of the parks or monuments they come from and why that particular **fossil** and park was chosen as the subject. A team of paleontologist and museum representatives judged the **national** artwork based on originality, creativity, and depicting the theme.



Lyzandra Casarez and her winning picture.

COURTESY PHOTOS



Melissa Hernandez and her winning picture.