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WEA Member Benefits Foundation Honors Waukesha Student Artist with 2024 Loeymae Lange “Best in Class” Award

Madison, WI, August 8, 2024 – WEA Member Benefits (Member Benefits) is excited to announce Elizabeth Montiho, a senior from the Waukesha School District, as the recipient of the Loeymae Lange "Best in Class" Award for their 2024 Student Art Contest. This year's theme was "Whimsical Wonder." Young artists were encouraged to think outside the box and embrace the theme in their unique and imaginative ways.

Montiho was selected from over 200 student submissions from across Wisconsin. Her piece captures the whimsical wonder of nature, focusing on the vibrant colors of amphibians. By using colored pencils to highlight the frogs' brilliant hues, which can serve to ward off predators, and finishing with chalk pastels for the background, Elizabeth showcases the magic in nature's processes.

This prestigious "Best in Class" award is given in memory of Loeymae Lange, a beloved art teacher who dedicated 30 years of her life to inspiring students at Cooper Elementary School in Burlington, Wisconsin. In 2021, her brother, Dr. Paul Lange, and his wife June established this endowment gift to honor Loeymae's legacy, passion for the arts, and dedication to inspiring young minds. This endowment supports the monetary prizes awarded to our talented contest winners, ensuring that Loeymae's legacy continues to flourish.

"Elizabeth's talent shines through in every detail of her piece, experimenting with different mediums and pushing the boundaries of imagination," said David Kijek, WEA Member Benefits President and CEO. "It's wonderful to be able to recognize and reward talented students in Wisconsin, and we thank the Langes for the additional financial support to be able to do so. We hope other individuals will consider donating to the Foundation to help fund future opportunities for budding artists."

For more information about the award and the WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc., please visit weafoundation.org/art-contest/.

About WEA Member Benefits

WEA Member Benefits has been helping Wisconsin public school employees achieve their financial goals for over 50 years by providing personal insurance and retirement and investment programs. We operate as a trust that reinvests any profits back into programs that benefit participants. We have no shareholders. This allows us to focus on meeting the needs of those we serve with high-quality products that are competitively priced. We have one of the highest customer retention and satisfaction rates in the industry. Learn more at weabenefits.com.

About the WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc.

The WEA Member Benefits Foundation, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit public charity supporting public education through grants and charitable donations to public educators, public schools, and the communities they serve. More information can be found at weafoundation.org.