



Press release: 1st April 2020

Online voting launched to find the region's top young artists

A public vote to find Liverpool City Region's best young artists opened on Saturday 28th March and continues until 28th April 2020. This year 1257 pupils from 76 schools have entered the dot-art Schools competition and the shortlisted students from each school are now hoping for your votes to win a place in the 8th annual exhibition.

The online inter-school art contest gives both Year 5 and Year 9 pupils across the Liverpool City Region and its near neighbours the opportunity to showcase their artistic talents and have their work shown in a public exhibition. At this stage school staff, friends, family and the general public can vote online for their favourite piece with the top art work from each school will be included in the final exhibition, details of which, due to the current coronavirus situation, will be announced as soon as possible.

dot-art Schools project manager Carolyn Murray commented: "We aim to celebrate the creativity of young people in the Liverpool City Region to nurture the next generation of rising stars. It's also a fantastic chance for pupils to showcase their skills and artwork to their parents, family and the wider community. At this uniquely challenging time for everyone, it is uplifting to be able to share and enjoy children and young people's creative efforts. Browsing through the hundreds of entries online to choose and vote for your favourite artwork is an ideal activity to do at home with your family."

The judges have narrowed it down to their top three entries from each school ready for the public to vote for their favourite. The shortlisting panel is made up of representatives from some of the region's most respected arts and cultural institutions. We're delighted to have Tony Heaton OBE, Chair of Shape Arts and Dr Deborah Riding, who leads the children and young people team at Tate Liverpool as new judges for this year's panel. They join Sandra Penketh, responsible for National Museums Liverpool's fine and decorative art collections, and Professor Caroline Wilkinson, Director of LJMU School of Art & Design.

The artwork with the most votes from each participating school will win a place in the dot-art Schools 2020 exhibition. The competition's overall winners will then be chosen by a special guest judge and announced at a prize-giving ceremony and exhibition launch later in the year. dot-art Schools is supported by Art Council England and could not operate without the generosity of our sponsors Medicash and Arriva.

View the shortlist and vote online for your favourite artwork at

<http://schools.dot-art.com/schools>

Voting closes at midnight on Tuesday 28th April 2020.

ENDS

Editor's Notes

dot-art Schools is managed by dot-art Services CIC, a not for profit arts organisation established in 2006. dot-art supports visual artists and champions art as an integral part of everyday life.

We do this by selling locally sourced, affordable art, working with businesses to put art in the workplace and public realm, running art classes and working with schools and community groups.

All this is underpinned by our unique membership scheme for artists in the North West which gives access to all the activities above and a package of support and advice, creating and developing artists' careers.

Issued by dot-art Services CIC.

NB. In response to government advice during the pandemic the dot-art gallery is closed until further notice, but we are working remotely so please email or call us. Calls are being redirected to the relevant member of our team.

For more information and photographs please contact dot-art Schools Project Manager carolyn.murray@dot-art.com or phone 0345 0176660.