

SEVENTH GRADE

Gabriel Gryzymkowski
Our Lady of Mercy
Catholic Academy

FIRST GRADE

Landon Cruz
Divine Wisdom
Catholic Academy

THIRD GRADE

Catherine Chi
Resurrection
Ascension Catholic
Academy

TENTH GRADE

Valentina Caggiano
Fontbonne Hall
The Lab School
for Girls

FOURTH GRADE

Sara Mendieta
Our Lady of Mercy
Catholic Academy

ELEVENTH GRADE

Victoria Bruno
Fontbonne Hall
The Lab School
for Girls

EIGHTH GRADE

Valerie Dresda
St. Mark Catholic
Academy

FOR THEIR LOVE OF JESUS

Winners announced in The Tablet's annual Easter art contest

SECOND GRADE

Stella Struble
St. Saviour Catholic
Academy

NINTH GRADE

Lucy An-Lee
The Mary Louis
Academy

by Paula Katinas, Senior Reporter

DYKER HEIGHTS — There's a lot of young artistic talent out there!

The Tablet's Annual Christ is Risen Easter Art Contest for students in the Diocese of Brooklyn attracted 285 entries this year with budding artists using their creative skills to express their Catholic faith.

The contest was sponsored by The Tablet in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus John Hughes Council No. 481 in Dyker Heights, and the student participants ranged in age from first graders to high school juniors.

"Every year, I'm more and more impressed by the artistic talents of the students," said Deputy Grand Knight Joseph Sbarra. "But this year, in particular, I saw a lot of sophistication."

The judges selected a winner in each grade. The winners received cash prizes and certificates at the awards ceremony on Monday, May 2, at the John Hughes Council, 1305 86th St.

Eighth-grader Valerie Dresda, 13, was thrilled when she found out she had won first place. Her portrait of the Risen Jesus was striking for its style and tone. She chose to work in pointillism — using dots to create her depiction of Jesus with his arms raised in glory and the flowers at his feet. Her palette also included bright colors in the background to depict the joy of the Resurrection.

"I wanted to do something unique," said

Valerie, a student at St. Mark Catholic Academy in Sheepshead Bay, "I was brainstorming ideas, and I thought doing it in dots in a mosaic style would be good. I chose the colors deliberately because I wanted to give it the spirit of spring."

Thomas Yance, a fifth-grader at Holy Child Jesus Catholic Academy in Richmond Hill, incorporated fun-filled Easter images — like the Easter Bunny — along with Jesus in his artwork. In the clever scene Thomas created, the bunny appears to be offering Jesus a brightly colored Easter egg as they both stand under a bright blue sky.

"I did it that way because Easter is about the Resurrection, but people like the Easter Bunny, too," he explained.

Thomas, who wants to be a priest when he grows up, depicted Jesus in a bright yellow garment surrounded by a halo.

"I've seen a halo on Jesus before and I wanted to do the same thing to show that he's important," he said.

