

Young Artists' Summer Show

2026

Young Artists' Summer Show

Project Sponsor
Robin Hambro

Project Team

Kira Milmo
Head of Learning and Public Programmes

Selina Levinson Drake
Learning Programme Manager

Araba Banson
YASS Project Manager

Jessica Webb
Digital Product Manager, YASS

Rhys Smallman
Senior Programmer - Young People

Curators

Seren Metcalfe
RA Schools Student

Joshua Clague
RA Schools Student

Judges, Primary | Ages 4–11 years

Mike Nelson RA
Artist

Seren Metcalfe
RA Schools student

Natasha Fyfe
Assistant Curator, Exhibitions

Vicky Carmichael
Director of Programmes, Freelands Foundation

Judges, Secondary | Ages 11–18 years

Sikelela Owen RA
Artist

Joshua Clague
RA Schools Student

Eliza Bonham Carter
Curator & Director, Royal Academy Schools

Canon Marlene Wylie
Past President and Senior Fellow,
National Society of Education in Art and Design

Young Artists' Summer Show

The Royal Academy of Arts is proud to welcome you to the eighth year of the Young Artists' Summer Show. The exhibition showcases the creativity of young artists and celebrates the educators who support their artistic development.

The expert panel of judges had the difficult task of choosing artworks for this exhibition, and the online gallery, from over 25,000 submitted works. The judges were seeking out unique expressions of creativity in a range of disciplines and from every region across the UK. From pets to portraits, textiles to ceramics, the variety of subjects and techniques on display demonstrates the remarkable breadth of young creative talent.

Making art gives young people the opportunity to develop their voices and a powerful means to express themselves. Through making and looking at art, young people can discover who they are, what they have to say and how they'd like to say it.

In this exhibition, we encourage you to engage with the voices, skills and ideas of young people and invite you to join us in celebrating the commitment of the educators who nurture creativity every day, in the classroom and beyond.

Louise Wilson, Jane and Louise Wilson RA
Chair, Royal Academy Schools Committee



The Royal Academy's Young Artists' Summer Show continues to highlight the vital role that art plays in the lives of young people. This year's submissions reveal the remarkable creativity of the next generation, exploring themes of identity, memory and the human experience through an impressive range of media.

The exhibition brings together an extraordinary diversity of work, from paintings and sculptures that challenge ideas of power and authority, to video, self-published zines, and portraits celebrating the resilience and strength of women. Younger artists offer profound reflections on neurodiversity, perception and belonging, while others explore cultural heritage, family histories and expressions of care through self-portraiture and personal narratives. Many of the youngest contributors have created powerful works using found natural materials, reminding us of the importance of caring for and sustaining the world around us.

As submissions continue to grow each year, witnessing the talent, insight and originality of these emerging young artists is both inspiring and humbling. I am delighted that the Royal Academy remains a dedicated home where young people can share their work with a wider audience, nurturing creativity and encouraging future generations to see art as an essential part of their lives.

Robin Hambro
Sponsor



Robin believed that art expanded minds and enabled people to see the world in new ways, which is why she made a lifelong commitment to supporting the arts and why she was so dedicated to supporting the creation and development of the Young Artists' Summer Show.

She was passionate about promoting the role of art in education and was proud that her support enabled the show to grow in success from year to year. We thank her for her continued generous support and, in her spirit, we congratulate all the young artists who submitted and those included in this year's show.

— Flora Neame, daughter of Robin Hambro

List of works



1
Aaraa, age 4
A Chameleon

Painting

I created this colourful chameleon to represent how beautiful nature is. The chameleon is perched on the branch, with a bright blue sky behind him and a butterfly camouflaged by the long green grass. I used these colours because they make me feel happy.



3
Edith, age 4
Dog in a Garden

Coloured pencils on paper

This is a happy dog running into a garden. It's got lots of legs and tails and is running really, really fast. There's a stopwatch showing how quickly it's going.



5
Eden, age 4
Tiger Popcorn

Alcohol markers, black permanent marker, crumpled tissue paper, and glue

Look at my Tiger Popcorn! I made the popcorn out of crunchy tissues. If you eat this magic popcorn, you will be as strong as a tiger! ROAR!



7
Theo, age 5
Captain Kitty Jack and the Kraken

Watercolour, paint pens, colouring pencil, and collage

This picture is about a pirate kitty fighting a giant kraken in the sea. He even moves and has a gold sword. He is protecting his treasure on the ship.



2
Finley, age 4
The Solar System

Oil paint on three canvas panels

Space is my favourite thing. I made three paintings to fit all the planets of the solar system in. In the middle picture, there is a supernova. I painted the background first and, when it was dry, I painted the planets, the sun and our moon on top. I love oil painting.



4
Ethan James, age 4
Whale

Wood, paint

I found this stick in the woods with my dad, and I said, 'Look! It looks like a whale! Can I paint it?'. When we got home, my dad printed out a picture of a whale for me to use as inspiration, and I had lots of fun painting this special stick.



6
Lucas, age 4
My Mummy

Tempera and oil pastel on cardboard

Children in the art studio were showing an interest in themselves, how they look, and how all people in the world are different. We started by focusing on our self-portraits and portraits of someone we love. We created paintings of ourselves and our mummies and our idols with a lot of passion.



8
Pia, age 5
The Night Garden

Mixed media

I made a messy jungle with paint. When it was dry, I used pencils, metallic pen, chalk, paint sticks, and crayon to make flowers, butterflies, bugs, and plants. I added white chalk for the wind. It makes me think of a magic secret garden.



9
Ada, age 5
A Cygnet Called Swozzle

Clay model with wire, air dried clay and acrylic paint

I made this because of the swans that sit in the fields near where I live in the Fens. I called it Swozzle because it is a swan, and I have a book about a gosling called Gozzle. A cygnet is a young swan, and they look a bit dirty compared to older swans. I am very proud of my work.



10
Audrey, age 5
My Mummy Before with Hair

Coloured ink and brush pen on paper

This is my mummy with long hair. I made it as a present for my papa. I used bright colours and lots of lines because I like drawing.



11
Bille, age 5
The Cave

Ceramic and glaze

I made a cave with a man on top. On the roof, there is a bowl that I can eat my breakfast from and two triangles with smiles on them.



12
Jaime, age 5
Volcano

Pastel, sandpaper

Inspired by nature.



13
Volodymyr, age 5
St Paul's Cathedral

Drawing

St Paul's Cathedral is a very beautiful building. I'm too small to build something like that, but I like to draw. I like this building, so I wanted to draw it. I hope you like it too.



14
Demetrius, age 6
Picnic in Space with My Mum

Acrylic paint on canvas

One Sunday morning, I went for a picnic in space with my mum. We visited all the planets in space with our own spaceship. On the way home, we also met a new alien friend. We had a great time.



15
Annabel, age 6
Sunny

Chalk on paper

A happy dog in the sunshine.



16
Maxwell, age 6
Bowie

Painting

I really like listening to David Bowie. I was painting at my friend's house and I decided to paint David Bowie's face with the lightning bolt.



17
Rupert, age 6
Jeffery 2026

Acrylic paint on canvas

Jeffery is my cat and he feels like my heart.



19
Magnus, age 6
Rocco the Dog

Oil pastel on paper

I wanted to show the love you can have for a dog and the softness in his eyes.



21
Olivia, age 6
I Love My City

Drawing

To celebrate Portsmouth city's 100th birthday, I have created lots of mini pictures of all the things that I love about Portsmouth and where I live. I love playing on the beach, going to the park, visiting the historic dockyard, and going to gymnastics. There are so many wonderful things to see and do in my fantastic city.



23
Hugh, age 6
My Super Secret Sausage Roll

Mixed media

I was eating a sausage roll, and I didn't want anyone else to have it. That was what made me think of this idea. The sausage roll is gold because it's my favourite colour, as gold means good luck. It gave me joy playing with the salt dough.



18
Noemi, age 6
Random Cute

Clay

This is a bear made out of clay. I made it because I have a pet cat whose name is Lu, and because I like cute things. Bears and cats are cute animals, so I decided to make a bear out of clay. I coloured in the bear's ears red with glaze. And I coloured in the whole body brown and a bit grey. It has one eye bigger and one eye smaller.



20
Nestor, age 6
The Shard

Pencil and coloured pencils

I visited central London on a school trip, and we passed by this very tall building. My teacher explained that this is called the Shard and it is the tallest building in the United Kingdom. It has a unique pyramid shape, and it's covered by numerous glass panes! I was really impressed by the size and shape of the Shard and how imposing it looked among the other shorter buildings around it.



22
Oz, age 6
Stories in Stitch

Wool on netting

Oz loves to use stitch as a method of drawing to express his ideas. When stitching, he says that he feels calm and becomes completely focused on the process. Each embroidered square holds a different story imagined by Oz. Embroideries left to right: A person trying to steal a crown; peace to stop war; B for the blood sea; star of hope; a bridge over the unknown forest; a golden frame of personality.



24
Freddie, age 6
Granny's Garden

Acrylic paint on canvas

This is Granny's garden and Grandpa's old bike. I like helping Granny with her plants and eating the tomatoes.



25
Mila, age 6
My Dream House

Drawing

I wish I could have a house like this when I am older, and live in it with my lovely children. I would love a bright blue car and a rainbow gate. I would love a cherry tree and ivy growing up the walls.



27
Theodore, age 7
Nana

Pencil on paper

I like this drawing because it makes my nana look like a gangster.



29
Poppy, age 7
The Famous Art Room

Drawing

Me and my mummy went to an art gallery and saw paintings and art, and I loved the day and wanted to share it with you.



31
Joshua, age 7
Joshua Self-portrait

Painting

Joshua created a self-portrait image as part of his art class when he was five years old, and it has had pride of place in our living room since. It's striking, we love the use of colour, and it really captures his thoughtful expression.



26
Wootton Bassett Infants School, ages 4–7
Bug Jam!

Clay, paper and crayons

Our whole school made this project during science week. We modelled minibeasts out of clay, after looking at photographs and illustrations (and following a bug hunt in our school grounds). We talked about what would happen to the ecosystem if we were to jar all our wonderful bugs. We designed our own paper lids using crayon and gathered them together for the overall effect.



28
Arlo, age 7
Lava Monster

Paint, pastels and stencils

Arlo carefully planned his lava beast using a scrapbook to collect his ideas. Because orange is his favourite colour, he made it a bold and important part of the design.



30
Frankie, age 7
Changing Faces

Wire and beads

I saw a wire sculpture in a gallery, and what I absolutely loved about it was that it wasn't really the sculpture that was the art, but the shadow it made on the wall. It was always changing. I thought it was so clever that the artist had made ever-changing art.



32
Ruben, age 7
Grumpy Daddy with the Hairy Chest

Drawing

I started drawing this image by copying a photo of someone else during a drawing workshop, but it soon started to resemble my daddy. Daddy is sometimes grumpy because Daddy does so much and gets worried. This was to cheer Daddy up, so we called it Grumpy Daddy with the Hairy Chest.



33
Benjamin, age 7
Squirrels

Air-dry clay

Inspired by my love of squirrels and their passion for nuts, I created this playful pair having a tiny woodland argument over a precious acorn. Each squirrel was hand-shaped from air-dry clay, then painted in bright colours and finished with a glossy glaze. Creating sculptures brings me so much joy, and I'm grateful to my art teacher, Emma, for inspiring me to love pottery even more.



34
Reya, age 7
Tulip Lady

Pencil and graphite on paper

Once I had a dream of a lady who was walking down the street. She would never stop thinking about flowers. I drew her with a pencil and graphite stick.



35
Theo-Fox, age 7
Bonnie

Acrylic paint on canvas

I painted a dog called Bonnie because I love dogs and he is my favourite. I tried to make him look real, like he is watching me. I felt really proud when I finished it.



36
Matilda, age 7
Mini Borrowed House

Model

The Borrowers by Mary Norton inspired me to create this mini house using objects borrowed from my home. It has clay borrowers and a clay pet cockroach. The sofa is made from a sponge, and the walls are covered with vines.



37
Alfie, age 7
Adventure in Metropolis 3

Marker pen on paper

Alfie started this drawing last Halloween. He adds a new sheet to the sides every few weeks, creating a long panoramic scene. He's excited to share the adventure in his ghostly wonderland, which stretches from day to night and from spring through winter.



38
Indigo, age 7
Minecraft World Diorama

Model

This is a diorama of a Minecraft setting with a bee, a sheep, a fully-grown turtle and a squid splashing out of the water. I have made this using small wooden blocks to create the Minecraft effect. I have made a sandy beach, some grass with trees and a sea. I painted each section and then coated the sand with some textured paint and filled the sea with some clear resin.



39
Felix, age 7
Being Me

Pastels and paint

'That's not right', were the words of my art club teacher when I was halfway through my picture last year. But I liked the colours, so I continued with my lion the way I wanted to do it. Lions are my third favourite animal, and Mummy and Daddy really liked the picture! Now it's in a frame in our kitchen, and we all see it every day. If I were you, I would keep breaking the rules when doing art!



40
Caoimhe, age 7
The View from Granny and Grandad's

Acrylic paint on canvas

I love going to Ireland to see my granny and grandad. Everything there is so, so green! From their house, you can see the giant mountains. They are like magic because every time I look at them, they change colour. Sometimes they are purple and sometimes they are blue. I painted this picture for my room so that when I miss them, I can just look at my painting and pretend I am standing right there.



41
Eva Victoria, age 7
We Are a Girl Team!

Acrylic paint on canvas

I wanted to make this painting to remind me of my very first proper sleepover with my very first friends. We made friendship bracelets and painted each other's nails and ate pizza. I painted our hands and our nails and friendship bracelets.



43
Celia, age 7
Old Wrinkly

Acrylic paint on canvas

This is my grandad sitting in the lounge painting me while I paint him. The woman behind his chair is his wife, Tina, bringing me a glass of water. My grandad inspired me to make this picture because he told me to paint something that was in front of me, and that was him. I wanted to call this Old Wrinkly because he is old and wrinkly (sorry Grandad!).



45
Aillie, age 8
Colour Harmony

Crayons on cardboard

I used different types of crayons and paint to colour my drawing to show colour harmony and make it look busy and fun. A few pieces of cardboard were added to the buildings and shops to give texture and make them look like real LED screens.



47
Theodore and Sebastian, age 8
Busy City

Drawing

We are twins who like to create art together. Our love for cities started during our first trip to London when we were only three years old, and we've been lucky to go back many times. Seeing the busy streets, police vans and all the people everywhere inspired us to draw a cityscape. We love drawing cities for many reasons, including for stop-motion animation that we also create together.



42
Otto, age 7
Hockey Sticks and Good Tricks

Pencil on cartridge paper

I drew a hockey match from my imagination because I just started playing hockey, and I really love it. I wanted to show how fun the game is. I placed different players in different parts of the pitch to make it look busy and exciting. Some are running, some are passing, and one is trying to score a goal. I used lots of pencil lines to show movement. My picture shows how happy I feel when I play hockey.



44
Teddy, age 8
Grandpa

Photograph

This is my grandpa eating breakfast on the second day of the cruise trip, a holiday for my birthday. He lives in Hong Kong, which is very far away from where I live so I don't see him very often. I took this picture of Grandpa as it is a memory between us. I took it in black and white so it would look older and more special.



46
Arohi, age 8
The Man

Black pen on cartridge paper

I worked with my class to draw a portrait. I had to concentrate, drawing and sketching. At first, I didn't like it and I rubbed out and drew again. The Man is not often smiling.



48
Zelda, age 8
CleoCroissant

Newspaper, modroc, wire, tissue, wood, acrylic, glitter, and feathers

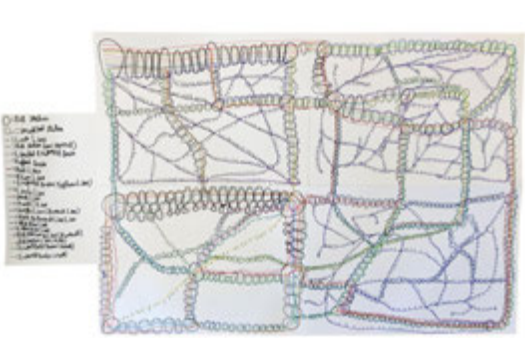
This is CleoCroissant! I named her after Queen Cleopatra and my favourite breakfast. She is a super wobbly, bubbly animal who loves to scratch her tummy! She has tiny wings, but they are under-developed – that's a fancy word for saying she can't fly yet. I even gave her a tongue because my sister was being mean and stuck hers out at me. Now it's a funny joke!



49
Astrid, age 8
Merlin

Modelling wire, clay and paint

I really love my dog Merlin, so I wanted to make a sculpture of him. He is a very gentle dog. He is really snuggly and wants to have cuddles with me all the time. I wanted to show that he is gentle and playful. I used modelling wire first and then added clay for the shape and texture and then painted the details.



51
Kazusa, age 8
The Train Map

Colour pen on paper

I love designing train maps! I chose colours and names for every line, making some stations big and others small. In the top left, many tracks bundle together; top right is where busy trains connect famous places; bottom left is green and peaceful; bottom right shows a special route for the Limited Express. A wide river flows through the centre, so only a few brave trains can cross it!



53
Jaden, age 8
Tiger Goes on a Train to the Moon

Acrylic pens on canvas board

I like tigers and trains so it's perfect for me to do this.



55
Jayan, age 8
Aerial View of Isle of Dogs

Ink on paper

My perspective drawing is inspired by Canary Wharf, which is a bustling place. Roads, tunnels and rivers snake around parks and buildings of all shapes and sizes, linking the 21st-century to London's rich history. Shiny modern skyscrapers catch the light and tower over the old, shadowy industrial buildings. I love my city!



50
Angelica, age 8
Still Life Aubergine

Acrylic paint on canvas

My mum loves still life, but I didn't until I saw the aubergine on the table and thought it really wanted to be a painting.



52
Ivy, age 8
Proud Puffin

Acrylic paint on canvas

I enjoyed painting this puffin at my art club after school. His name is Paul, and I like how he is standing proudly on the rock.



54
Faye, age 8
Bad Luck

Mixed media on black card

When I made this book and this picture, I thought that there are bad things that I would not like to happen to anyone.



56
Mimi, age 8
Getting Started

Acrylic paint and pen on paper

I made this painting of my dad who is about to start drawing. I drew him in a pink Posca and then painted it in acrylic and added acrylic pen on the flowers. I found it tricky but fun.



57
Lilly, age 8
British Gymnast

Mixed media

I love gymnastics!



59
Joseph, age 8
The Pantry of Fun Food

Watercolour and gouache paint on watercolour paper

I really love food and cooking with my family, and I really love drawing as well. I decided to draw a picture of the fun and colourful food in our pantry. It made me very hungry every time I sat down to paint! It was so much fun painting it, and I love all the detail in the packets and jars of the different foods from all over the world.



61
Indra, age 8
My Blackberry Pot

Ceramic

My Blackberry Pot was inspired by picking blackberries in the summertime. I wanted a pot to eat the berries from, so I thought I should make a giant one to hold them all. The inside is glazed with a juicy red colour when you open it, it looks a bit like a mouth.



63
Timo, age 8
Life in Music

Modelling clay

I enjoy composing music on my piano and climbing trees. When I go out for walks, I enjoy looking at the different types of trees, and I like the sounds they make in the wind. This piece is inspired by the work of Dalí.



58
Charlie, age 8
The Viaduct

Paint

I drew the viaduct as it is an iconic landmark of Stockport.



60
Amazon, age 8
The Folk Night

Acrylic paint, oil pastel and pencil on canvas

I was inspired after my mum took me to a folk night in the local pub because I am learning how to play the chanter. My chanter teacher was there, as well as some fiddle players, a man playing the guitar and banjo and someone on the accordion. It was one of the best nights I have had in my life, and I wanted to capture the essence of it in my painting.



62
Nya-Rose, age 8
My Family Rulez!

Oil pastel on card using brush

I love my family, we have lots of fun and adventures. Everyone cares about each other.



64
Poppy, age 8
This Is Me

Gouache paint and pencils on paper

This portrait shows me I can be me. I used a mirror, some paint and pencils for the front where my hair falls on my face.



65
Mona, age 8
Friends

Pencil and ink

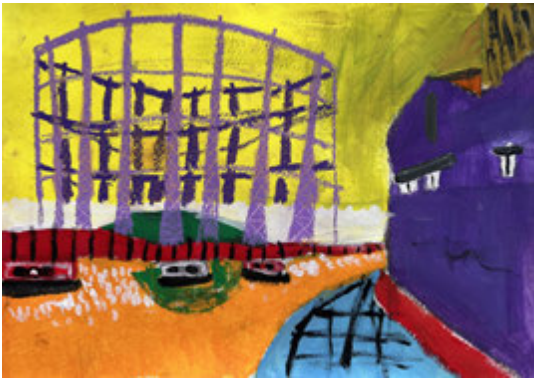
I wanted to show the connection between my friend and me. I was inspired by candid photography. I exaggerated my size as the standing friend.



67
Oscar, age 9
The Presence

Charcoal and pencil

A giant sea monster creeps through a town at night. Two eyes watching from above. Dark doorways also watch. It's a mystery story.



69
Beth, age 9
East London's Colosseum

Acrylic paint and oil pastel on paper

Some people might say the gas rings are East London's Colosseum because of their huge, curved sides. I really like this picture because the gas rings are a symbol of the past and make me think about the people who lived here before me. Although these gas rings have stood next to Regent's Canal for over a hundred years, life around them – and the sights and sounds – has changed a lot.



71
Piper, age 9
The Hand Cream

Paper model

I made this piece for my mum because she has a cream for everything.



66
Daniel, age 9
Cockatoo

Clay

This clay cockatoo explores my love of animals and working with my hands. I wanted to capture the bird's personality and strength through texture and form.



68
Evangeline, age 9
Trainee Dentists, Imaging and Dermatology at Guy's Hospital

Acrylic paint on canvas

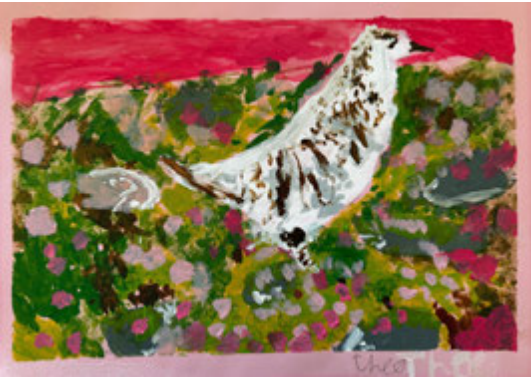
For our art project, we went to sketch the trainee dentists at Guy's Hospital. Guy's and St Thomas's Hospitals are the biggest employers in Southwark. If I were to work at Guy's, I would like to be a dentist. I like my painting because it is unique. It has a lot of people in it, and I find people difficult to draw or paint, so I feel very proud of how it turned out!



70
Freddie, age 9
Gossip

Acrylic paint on putty

A boy with a long tongue. If you lie like Pinocchio, your nose grows longer; if you gossip, then your tongue grows longer. I made this as I don't like gossiping!



72
Theodore, age 9
Dove in Love

Acrylic painting on paper

My painting is of a dove walking in a flower meadow; I wanted to celebrate spring with lots of reds and pinks, which make me think of Valentine's Day and springtime. I wanted to make a joyful and happy picture.



73
Ibrahim, age 9
B-777 300

Paint on cardboard

I made this for all of the aviation fans out there. I painted it on cardboard and made it as accurate as possible.



75
Uthamaan, age 9
Birmingham Town Hall

Paper collage and ink pen on mountboard

I was inspired to create my tribute to Birmingham Town Hall because I live in Birmingham. I ripped pieces of coloured paper and glued them inside the frame. I drew the building using a pen and included different shapes to show its structure. After that, I added details such as windows and the sun. I felt happy and surprised that I created this piece; it made me feel like a real artist.



77
Ray, age 9
Mr Snappy

Clay

I was inspired to sculpt this because it combines two of my favourite things: Mr Whippy ice cream and crocodiles. I thought about what might happen if instead of you eating the ice cream, the ice cream were to eat you! So that's how I ended up calling it...Mr Snappy!



79
Michael, age 10
Winter Landscape

Oil pastel

Contrasting cool shadows beneath a sparkling, warm sun. We missed the snow, so we painted it.



74
Arthur, age 9
Chiffchaff

Clay with acrylic paint

Chiffchaffs are beautiful and peaceful. I wanted to make it out of clay because I love the texture.



76
Oleksandra, age 9
Three of Us

Painting

It is picture of me, my mum and Grandma. Three generations of girls unified in one dance, forming a circle of life.



78
Evie, age 9
The Wolf Cub

Painting

Inspired by our new puppy.



80
Olivia, age 10
Brushing Teeth

Acrylic paint on canvas

I get so tired when I brush my teeth every day. I heard snails have lots of teeth on their tongue, so they must be even more tired and brush for a really long time!



81
Wiktorja, age 10
Happiness in Nature

Acrylic paint on canvas

This painting shows a special holiday with my dad. We fed little ducklings at a lake in the mountains, and I wanted to remember that happy moment. I painted the peaceful water, green hills and sunny sky to make it feel calm and beautiful. My favourite part was painting the tiny ducklings swimming behind their mummy duck.



83
Denis, age 10
Artist's Self Reflection

Acrylic paint on canvas paper

I loved how the Impressionists painted light instead of just lines. I used short, quick brushstrokes to capture how I felt in the moment. I didn't want it to look like a perfect photograph; I wanted to show how my reflection changes depending on the light and my mood. This painting shows that I'm not one thing – I'm a mix of colours and energy that's always moving.



85
Isabella, age 10
Anteater Exoplanet

Painting

My picture is a floating animal, an anteater exoplanet filled with mysterious, ominous sights like massive mushrooms that loom over you. Plants and greenery that pulse with faint life. On the anteater, there is a quiet hut; no one knows who lives there or where it came from. Can you figure it out?



87
Charlie, age 10
Dream Big!

Clay and paint

I was inspired by skateboarding and my own life. I love skateboarding so much that I decided to recreate it in real life through my art.



82
Sophia, age 10
Self-portrait Age 9

Pencil on paper

I drew this self-portrait when I was nine years old. I accidentally drew the oval for my head tilted but decided I quite liked it and kept it instead of rubbing it out. I really enjoyed making it and am extremely proud of it.



84
Max, age 10
Breakfast

Acrylic and collage

I wanted to paint my favourite meal of the day. I thought a bowl of cereal would be a bit boring, and although I don't eat eggs, they do look great! I love the colours that you see in yolk. I wanted to paint this with acrylic paints to show the shine that you see. I really like making collages, so I thought I could paint on top of the paper and have both my favourite skills in one painting.



86
Edward, age 10
Hub-Cycling

Sculpture

I collect roadside trash and turn it into art. I call it 'hub-cycling'.



88
Betty, age 10
Happy Banana!

Earthenware clay and glaze

I made a really cute banana who is always really jolly and happy and is always sitting really relaxed and watching the world go by with a cute little smile on his face. He's made of earthenware clay, which I glazed in brown, black, yellow, and a little bit of green.



89
Ella, age 10
Monday Morning

Pen on paper

This picture is about the hustle and bustle of the first Monday back at school after the holidays, with old friends catching up and new kids hovering at the date, uncertain where to go and what to do. I love drawing pictures that are very busy with lots of people and movement.



90
Hattie, age 10
Journey by Moonlight

Acrylic paint on canvas paper

Journey by Moonlight captures the quiet magic of travelling from my grandparents' home in Sheffield back to London beneath a luminous super moon. Framed like a car window, the glowing road and fiery horizon blur into memory, where trees flicker past in dreamlike colour. The moon hangs steady above shifting landscapes, a silent companion guiding the way. This piece reflects the tenderness of leaving, the comfort of return, and the stillness found in motion.



91
Arlo, age 10
The Woodland Demon (AKA Woodmon)

Clay and acrylic paint

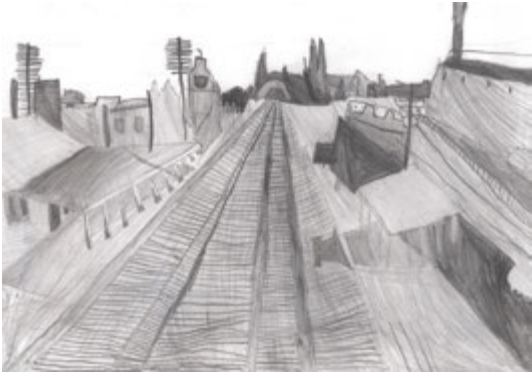
This is a demon who lives in a woodland habitat. He is brown so that he blends in. I like the colours because it will be camouflaged in the trees. I did this because I really like forests and mythical creatures. I started with a drawing and then made a sculpture of my drawing.



92
Freddie, age 11
All About Me

Oil on canvas

This painting was inspired by a photo taken of me when my family and I went walking on Dartmoor on an unusually clear, sunny day. The painting portrays how I felt at the time: calm, collected and proud of myself for having climbed a tor. I painted this in oil and learned that you can get lots of nice skin tones by doing this.



93
Martha, age 11
From My Perspective

Drawing

This is a perspective study from a photograph. I completed it after learning how to use vanishing points.



94
Evangeline, age 11
An Act of Kindness at the Pizzeria

Foil, pebbles, paper, googly eyes, Fimo, cardboard, and squishy animals

The story is set in a pizzeria where the rocks are dining out together. A person on their own orders a pizza, but it is stolen by a thief! One of the rocks kindly gives them their slice of pizza and in return the foil man gives him a box of chocolates. Meanwhile, the pizza thief is arrested in the city. A small act of kindness can really change someone's day!



95
Marta, age 11
Youth and Old Age

Charcoal on paper

I did this drawing at my classes at Royal Drawing School. I was inspired by the drawing we used for our training. I love using charcoal, it's my favourite material; it feels just nice when I draw with it — the movement is easy and light. I noticed this young lady, she looks sad, mysterious and thoughtful at the same time; she is thinking carefully.



96
Lucy, age 11
My Little Hen

Wood chips and papers

"My little hen, pecks with her beak, from your hand, she sees treats. Sometimes she pecks you, off you screech!"

Read the full poem online.



97
Eliya, age 11
Rainy Girl

Pens on napkin with tomato sauce stains

I drew this in a pizzeria on my napkin. It was raining outside and that inspired my drawing.



99
Olive, age 11
Two Ladies on the Train

Blackwing pencil, coloured pencils, Tombow pens, and red fineliner on paper

I really enjoy drawing on trains. It's something fun to do on long journeys. I like drawing strangers because it's someone new to draw. It's easy to sketch them because they are sitting still. I can try out different things on someone with a different face. I do it in secret so they can't see me drawing them.



101
Arlo, age 11
Escape

Drawing

Escape was inspired by my love of reading. It transports me to faraway places, away from the difficulties of life. I represented this through the doors. They all represent stories (see if you know any!).



103
Theo, age 11
Clay All Day

Polymer clay models mounted on card

I created this using some of the many polymer clay models I have made over the last few years. I make models almost every day because it's fun and helps me relax. I enjoyed sorting and arranging the models to make the piece, and when I look at it, I am reminded of lots of my past and present interests and phases I've gone through.



98
Grace, Henry, Clarice, Ava, Billy, Lexi, Ruby, Lily, Freya, age 11
Park Pals

Papier-mâché

Our dogs are created in papier mâché and came together as a group piece. Some are tiny and some are larger than life – all have a place in this work.



100
Iona, age 11
Wiggles in the Woods

Acrylic paint on watercolour paper

Wiggles is the name of my toy black bear. I was given him when I was three. This is how he would look if he went out for a walk in the woods before he had to hibernate for the winter.



102
Kian, age 11
The Bus Enters Sketchland

Drawing

This is a drawing of HF58 GZM, fleet number 1197, a Scania Omnicity, first entering service in Southampton for the Unilink Service. I love transport.



104
Aoi, Ena, Saarah and Pola, age 11
Sir Pigeon

Acrylic paint

This pigeon refuses to eat crumbs left by tourists. He thinks he is far too important for that. His favourite dish is beef Wellington, and he won't settle for anything less.



105
Emily, age 11
Holding Your Fears

Modroc and acrylic paint

I used to be scared of snakes, but one day, my brother was asked to look after three snakes over half-term. There was one little snake who was smaller than his siblings. I ended up trying to hold him, and the more I did, I stopped being so afraid. We later adopted the snake. It's important to try new things, as it might end up being something you love.



107
Nia, age 11
Chompy

Stoneware clay

Chompy is inspired by a former guinea pig who recently passed away and meant a lot to me. My creation is a stoneware clay sculpture; it is biscuit fired to 1000°C, then decorated with oxides and glaze and high fired to 1240°C.



109
Elsie, age 11
Me on Broadway

Painting

I have created this self-portrait to show my love of musical theatre. My dream is to perform on Broadway, so I made this drawing about it.



111
Ava, age 11
The Painting Man

Acrylic spray paint

Acrylic spray paint on found wood.



106
Chip, age 11
The Dark Truth Behind AI Art – A Zine

Mixed media

Before the internet, people made zines to protest about things and spread information. This is my zine about the dark side of AI. Artists are caged in hell, and AI steals their work, tricking people into believing it's theirs. People don't believe real artists anymore, and AI steals their creativity. So, what can we do about it now? This is my way of protesting against AI and showing how it can be bad for artists.



108
Ted, age 11
Pencil Haze

Drawing

I chose to draw Jimi Hendrix as I think he's the greatest guitar player of all time. I enjoy pencil drawings as I like creating depth and perspective with shading. This was my first portrait, and I learned a lot from the process.



110
Sophia, age 11
Memories of Mandeville

Clay, textile, acrylic paint, and wire

I decided to do a clay model of my recently departed cat, Mandeville. He meant a lot to me, and I think this is what he is doing over the Rainbow Bridge. I hope this piece always reminds me of the happy memories we had together.



112
Scarlett, age 11
Trapped in a Small Life, Years Getting Younger

Drawing

I wanted to represent memory loss.



113
Beren, age 11
Fragments of a Rainbow

Mixed media

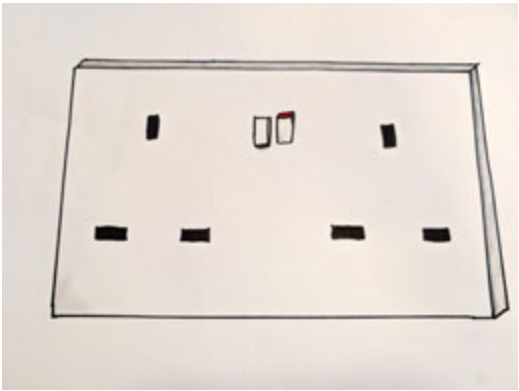
Fragments of a Rainbow reflects how emotions and experiences come in pieces rather than as one perfect whole. Each colour represents a different mood or moment, separate yet connected. Together, they show that even in fragments, there is still beauty and unity.



115
Sienna, age 11
Selfie Portrait

Alcohol marker and pencil

The idea of taking a selfie and drawing a distorted image came to life when I saw my reflection on my boot as I was walking in the rain. I combined alcohol pens to reflect modern technology with contrasting pencil work for the reality of my hands. I chose the fisheye filter to give a playful, light-hearted self-reflection and to highlight the fact that what you see online is not always an accurate reflection of reality.



117
Harvey, age 11
The Plug

Drawing

I drew this because I thought of something random. When I saw it finished and displayed on the wall, I thought it was such a good idea, and it turned out really well. This made me want to submit it.



119
Elias, age 11
Mushroom

Paper

This mushroom is made of paper. I like how it appears to be a fairytale woodland mushroom, but from a dark mystery. It's really crinkly from folding to look like the gills of a mushroom. I've twisted the paper to make the stalk and wetted it slightly so that it would stick.



114
Oriane, age 11
Come Take a Seat

Acrylic paint on canvas with textiles

Sometimes home isn't a place, it's the people you spend time with, sharing food and memories. This is a picture of my extended multi-cultural family, and like the people, the food is also from different cuisines. Kimchi and kimbap from Korea and haggis and tatties from Scotland! And we have three dogs in the family, who also sit at the table asking for food!



116
Jake, age 11
Peaaaa Man

Clay

When your mum says 'eat your peas' you be like...



118
Emma, age 11
The Little White Explorer

Painting

This cat stands on a table to play with fish in a bowl.



120
Elena, age 11
Talent Show

Oil, Posca pens and coloured paper on canvas

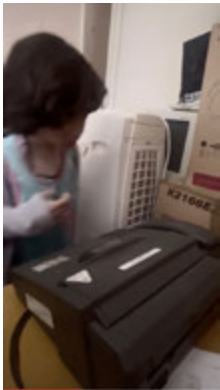
On the night of my school's talent show, my two friends and I performed a dance in pyjamas. Our dance had won us second place! It was a really magical night. We took pictures of ourselves to look back on, and I decided to paint that picture. I used oil paint and later on added fun details with Posca pens, stickers and even did small collages in some places with coloured paper from a magazine. It was an amazing memory.



121
Emilia, age 12
Snack Man

Video

I was first inspired to make Snack Man after eating a round cheese, as it reminded me of Pac-Man. Because it was cheese, I decided to create a cheese-board version using breadsticks for the maze edges, blueberries for the pellets, and cherries like in the real game. It took a long time to edit, with over 400 photos, but it was worth it.



122
Otto, age 12
The Phone Call

Video

This video was inspired by a visit to my grandparents' house in Sydney, Australia, during Christmas 2025. The house is old and big and spooky, and I made this video featuring my brother Max. The old fax machine became a time machine with unexpected outcomes.



123
Edward, age 12
Inquisitive Snake

Wood carving

My grandad and I spent a whole year in his workshop creating this carving. I learnt much about carving wood and using his tools to create various mark making skills. I wanted to show a snake in its natural environment on some grass. I really enjoy working with wood and creating sculptures inspired by natural forms.



124
Martha, age 12
Suki

Gouache on paper

This is a painting of my beloved sausage dog, Suki. We were at a summer party, and she was fully involved. I like the contrast of colours in this image.



125
Chiara, age 12
Still Inside

Oil pastel

I drew this portrait to represent someone in a moment of still introspection, the figure's posture shows someone turning inward, finding a moment of peace even when the world around them feels loud. The colours—green, yellow, and pink—reflect the mix of calm, uncertainty, and quiet hope they might feel. It's my way of capturing the strength that comes from pausing, breathing, and growing quietly.



126
Chip, age 12
Underground Mouse

Tetra pak intaglio print

When visiting London with my mum and dad, we always look to see the underground mice. Camouflaged in the dirt and moving so quickly amongst the train tracks, spotting one is always a treat.



127
Sophia, age 12
Friendship Bracelets for World Leaders

Beads and elastic

These bracelets are for presidents and prime ministers of each country in the world. Each one has colours from their own country's flags. I think if leaders wore friendship bracelets, they might remember to be kinder and solve problems peacefully instead of fighting.



128
Sofia, age 12
Egg, Pizza, Snake, Creature Guy

Clay

Candlestick featuring an egg, pizza, snake, smiley face and a creature with orange hair. This was painted with seven colours: black, white, blue, orange, red, yellow, and brown. Then glazed. It is inspired by other collage artists.



129
Fiona, age 13
The Dreaming Kitten

Acrylic paint on paper

My favourite part of painting this kitten was trying to make it look furry, friendly and asleep. Using warm colours, I was able to make the cat have a furry texture. the warm colours contrast with the black on the ears and the eyes, the white on the paw and face of the kitten also contrasts with the black. The texture of the fluffy fur also makes a good contrast to the flatness of the beige background.



130
Betty, age 13
Dragonfly

Model

For the 3D model, I used a range of materials to create different effects, such as fabric, wire and beads. Finally, I added a bell at the end of the tail to make the work interactive!



131
Leigh, age 13
More Rain

Acrylic paint on cardboard

Every day when I go out of my house, the sky is grey and it feels like it's about to rain. I really don't like British cold, grey weather all the time, so I thought, why not make something about that? I thought that a tiny old TV would look good because England has had this type of weather for so long.



132
Jenna, age 13
Box

Mixed media

A mixed media sculpture.



133
Quince, age 13
Two Faced

Earthenware clay, iron nails and crystal glazes

This ceramic sculpture shows one head with a face on each side, their expression and glazed finish different from each other. It's about how people can act one way to your face and another behind your back, especially in teenage friendships when everything feels intense and confusing. The iron nails in the head represent the hurtful words and betrayal that can really stick with you. It shows how hard it can be to figure out who your real friends are.



134
Giri, age 13
Sharp Edge

Plastic filament

Every year, I go on a walking trip with my dad. Last year, we did Blencathra in the Lake District, ascending over Sharp Edge, and I made this afterwards, inspired by that experience. I wanted to capture the energy of the scramble through a contrasting interplay of shapes from the horizon, land and water.



135
Louis, age 13
Cityscape

Ash wood

My piece is a representational model of a cityscape. I was really inspired by all the different elevations you see in a city. To show that, I built different ramps that lead up to higher, elevated areas and platforms. I made the whole thing out of wood, using a chop saw to cut the larger pieces, while the smaller pieces I hand-cut. I didn't want to varnish it; I like it the way it is, raw and clean.



136
Archie, age 13
Black and White Cat

Coloured pencil

This student has worked extremely hard in school and at home to produce this stunning piece of art. Throughout the Fur and Feathers project, they explored a wide range of materials and techniques. Students had the opportunity to photograph their own pet or another animal, and then worked observationally from their chosen image, selecting the material that best suited their creative intentions.



137
Mija, age 13
Emotional Kaleidoscope

Acrylic paint and oil pastel

This work is my version of an Impressionist style painting, and it reminds me of the beauty of nature that lies around us. The colours spread around are like a kaleidoscope, and the emotions are the sensation that nature brings to us. This painting is meant to represent beauty and the joy, like I experienced whilst I was making this landscape.



139
Kyreece, age 14
Self-portrait

Pencil

This is my pencil self-portrait. I based it on a selfie I took, which was close up and intense. The lines are emotional and quick in the background, but soft and blended on the face. There is an emptiness above like a cloud.



141
Noah, age 14
Skate Park

Photograph

I took this photo and edited it to have an Edward Weston style. I wanted the image to have a grainy look in black and white. I wanted to capture something from my everyday life in a traditional style.



143
Mariya, age 14
Judgement

Colouring pencil, charcoal and HB pencil on paper

That is what I imagine social anxiety to feel like.



138
Sidney, age 13
Nighttime Fridge

Watercolour and pencil

I chose to paint my fridge as it's one of the things I use the most. I like the glow of it in the evening when I'm deciding what to eat.



140
Shreeya, age 14
Craftivism

Mosaic

Mosaic plate tackling themes of racism and equality.



142
Carmen, age 14
Sweet Dreams

Colour pencils over watercolour

I decided to draw my dog, Pipa, because she looked peaceful and I wanted to reflect that in my art. I used paint for the walls because they are smooth, and paints produce a smooth and gradual texture. I did the foreground in pencil to add texture to the dog's fur and the fabric of the chair, and also to give them a bolder look and make them stand out, since they are the main part of the drawing.



144
Thomas, age 14
Imagine

Ink drawing

Imagine you're sailing at about the same altitude that you can see the entire earth as a whole. Crashing through the glistening waves of white fluffy clouds. If you are thinking of such things, surely, you'd be taking this journey, in a marvellous, magical creation like this one, where the most peculiar stuff happens, and even your imagination imagines...



145
Tamsin, age 14
Vibrant Valleys

Textile

This piece explores my 'cynefin', or place of belonging. It captures the essence of Wales by using patchwork and quilting to evoke a sense of joy and belonging. Inspired by a landscape where deep purples meet mossy greens, I intentionally chose colours that bring depth and wonder. Layers of delicate lace ribbon and tactile buttons mirror the atmospheric mist and hidden textures of the land.



147
Sally, age 14
Here Today, Gone Tomorrow

Reclaimed fabric, wire and gouache

I made these fabric birds to show some of the species that people think are still really common, even though they're actually rapidly declining. They're displayed in a wooden frame with handwritten tags, a bit like old collectors used to do. My idea was to make people notice these birds again and realise how quickly they're vanishing from the world around us.



149
Lily, age 14
Looking Back at the Beach

Crochet and embroidery

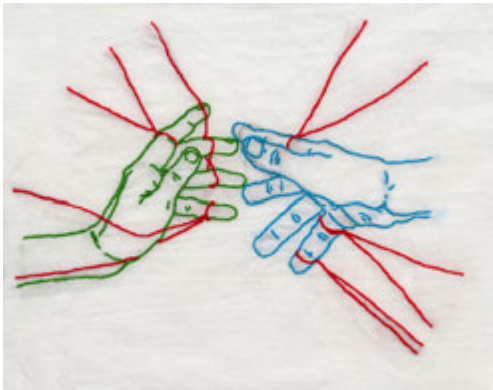
This is the first tapestry I have ever made. It is a self-portrait of me at the beach when I was five. It shows simpler times before I had to worry about exams! I plan to gift this tapestry to my parents and will enjoy looking at it as I grow up.



151
Madeleine, age 15
Flooded

Gouache and oil pastel on canvas

I wanted to portray 'flooding', which is a feeling of acute overwhelm that many people with autism experience. I wanted to show the shutdown of my mind as it disconnects and wanders from the outside world. Around the painting are objects that represent the people and belongings that are important to me, such as the camera and the duck. This is the painting I am most proud of.



146
Olivia, age 14
Together

Thread on linen

I hand-sewed this embroidery piece with the idea of peace and interconnection among human beings in mind, as I believe this is a topic of great importance, especially nowadays. I adore drawing hands, so I thought I would experiment with creating an embroidery piece that uses hands as the primary subject. I started off by sketching it out with a ghost drawing that disappeared after washing. Embroidery takes time and patience; it's like a meditation.



148
Serena, age 14
Strategic Thinking

Drawing

I have chosen to capture my younger brother engaging in his favourite pastime. I decided on a tonal drawing as it is in keeping with the traditional black and white colour palette of the game.



150
Nefeli Chloi, age 14
Across the Ocean

Coloured pencils on paper

Across the Ocean is about missing people you love who are far away. My siblings live in Chile, and I live in London, so distance is a big part of our lives. Most of the time, we only see each other through photos and videos. Last year, I met them for the very first time. I chose coloured pencil because it feels like childhood and early memories with them. This drawing is about love that stays strong, even across an ocean.



152
Lewis, age 15
Still Life

Acrylic paint on paper

I did a random sketch and decided to paint it. I have studied Roy Lichtenstein, which is why there are geometric lines in the foreground. I also love Matisse and the expressionists, and I wanted to create a flat decorative still life.



153
Maya, age 15
Me in My Barong

Oil pastels on canvas

This is an oil pastel self-portrait of me wearing my barong tagalog. It is the men's national dress for the Philippines, where my mother and my grandma (from my father's side) are from. Even though it's for men, I still like to wear it.



155
Samuel, age 15
Democracy and Dictatorship

Block printing ink on awagami masa paper

This is a linocut which I designed from my imagination. I hand-drew and hand-cut using a combination of tools. My print shows a taxi, highlighting the North Korean leader Kim Jong-un in the front, being driven by a crazed taxi driver. In the back sits a relaxed Donald Trump. The art deco sun is a nod to the Chrysler Building.



157
Lily, age 15
Lifejacket

Textile

This lifejacket symbolises the dangerous journeys undertaken during the refugee crossings crisis and is embroidered with words by poet Warsan Shire.



159
Ella, age 16
Granny's Glassware

Acrylic paint on canvas

My favourite style of art to create is realism, so after being lent various glass vessels from my granny, I arranged a few of my favourites with a single eucalyptus stalk. I chose these pieces because their colours reminded me of sea glass. I used acrylic paint for vibrancy, and because it allowed me to layer strokes to create the impression of illuminated glass.



154
Gabriella, age 15
Refine Space

Printing on paper

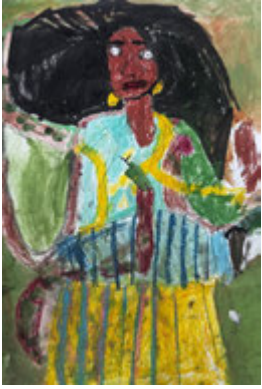
I was enjoying combining all the techniques I learned in printing and making my own version.



156
Emma, age 15
My Very Own Dog

Colour pencils

My family has always had dogs, even before I was born. When I was little, my parents surprised me by driving me all the way to England to pick up my very own dog Charlie. I chose this picture as I think it effectively shows the comfort and happiness I felt with my dog when I was younger.



158
Jonathan, age 16
Yoruba Òriṣà

Acrylic paint, oil pastel, crayon, and ink

Jonathan explored character and emotion through bold marks, layered colour and strong contrast. In this portrait, he used sweeping black shapes for the hair to frame the face, then added energetic lines and patterns across the clothing to suggest movement and personality. The expressive eyes make the figure feel story-led, like a character from a legend. For inspiration from Nigerian mythology, Jonathan explored Yoruba Òriṣà tales (Ṣàngó, Ọṣun, Yemoja, Oya), Egúngún masquerades, and Mami Wata imagery.



160
Olivia, age 16
Grit

Oil paint

I wanted to explore the medium of oil paint, and this is my second time using it. I was drawn to the expression on the man's face and the intermingling of emotions. Oil allowed me to build depth through layers of light and shadow, helping me capture that expression more intensely. I also wanted to challenge myself technically and push my skills further as an artist.



161
Delphie, age 16
The Invisible Woman

Tonal pencil on cartridge paper

I drew my mum, as I am inspired by her strength. She has six arms, each representing how women are strong and do many jobs. The arms depict how the effort and strength of women often goes unnoticed and unappreciated. I drew this large scale to show that women are allowed to take up space in society instead of being shrunken and diminished.



163
Eliana, age 16
My Brother

Charcoal on paper

A composition inspired by my brother daydreaming through the window on a long bus journey.



165
Max, age 16
The Lime Phoenix

Etching, ink on watercolour paper

My etching is based on a tree in Richmond Park which represents rebirth and revival after destruction. This piece is made in memory of Jakob, who loved to come and spend time in the park as a child, but sadly passed away at nine years old. The knots and scars in the tree give it great character and emotion, reflecting Jakob's spirit as well as the idea of rebirth as the tree continues to grow new roots.



167
Inaya, age 16
Political 'Sauces' Sources

Bottles, labels, pen, paper, and wood

Each bottle is filled with censored newspaper articles connected to nine leaders, with the establishment date referencing their birth year. Initially, viewers may notice the humour in the slogans and imagery, but closer inspection reveals deeper political narratives. I hope the work encourages discussion and makes complex political concerns more accessible and engaging.



162
Daniel, age 16
Skybound Echoes

Acrylic paint

This piece represents two warbirds carving through a restless sky, both symbolising power and fragility. My way of paying respects to the people fighting for us.



164
Winki, age 16
A Night in Takamatsu

Acrylic paint on canvas

Nostalgia of the gentle breeze under the canopy and the excitement my sister and I had in the summer festival with the matsuri game, suupaa boru sukui. This is my favourite core memory with my sister; the paper-thin scooper made us extra careful and determined to get ourselves a bouncy ball. In the end, we failed, but the stall owner was generous enough to gift us the prizes. This experience will always be my definition of summer joy.



166
Ellen, age 16
That Illusive Home

Mixed media

Based on living in different countries and the image of home.



168
Delphine, age 16
Hidden Temples

Black ink on paper

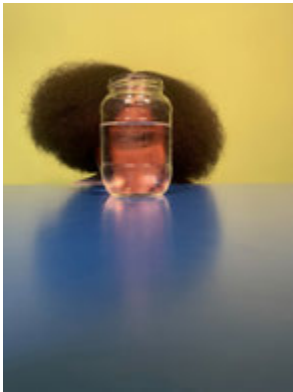
Inspired and enchanted by mythical lore about hidden temples and sacred sites. Often camouflaged structures, it is not obvious where the temples are but for the spiritual presence of the divine gatekeepers. This illustration took me two months, each small line and dot carefully placed. Every time I worked on this piece, it was like a meditation in patience and discipline. It was sometimes challenging not to rush and to remain focused on the bigger picture while my hand ached.



169
Chimmaramma, age 16
The Nigerian Grandmother

Drawing

This is my own version of The Mona Lisa. I was inspired by Mark Powell's portrayal of older people and Kehinde Wiley's portrayal of Black people in the poses of famous portraits. I really loved his use of vibrant colours and patterns, which I felt linked well with my culture. I wanted to do a portrait of my grandma in this style as I felt the two styles complemented each other well.



170
Nicole, age 17
My Tribe

Photograph

I was trying to explore identity and cultural expression, so I took self-portraits and played with the background patterns and hairstyles. The background colour I used is bold, colourful and recognisable from Maasai shuka, traditional plaid cloth worn by the Maasai.



171
Sachelle, age 17
Roots of Resilience

Ceramic

This piece explores the beauty and complexity of Afro hair, using form and texture to highlight both personal identity and wider cultural narratives. Through the sculpted coils and patterns, the work reflects on the struggles many people have faced in seeking acceptance, challenging the stigma and discrimination often associated with natural Black hair. The piece becomes a celebration of resilience and pride.



172
Joe, age 17
A Family Portrait

Pens on canvas

I have recently found that doodling helps me relax and chill my mind. These large-scale doodles start with no thought process, just unconscious doodles and scribbles. This one, however, did have an intention and a starting point and is a portrait of my family. To the left is my mum, top right is my brother, bottom right is my dad (he has Parkinson's), bottom left is my sister, and I am in the centre. Centre of the chaos!



173
Abubakar, age 17
Untitled

Etching and ink

This is an etching of my family. I wanted to celebrate community, family and togetherness in my work.



174
Tessa, age 17
Hats

Gouache on card

Inspired by van Gogh's Chair and 17th-century Dutch flower paintings, this painting explores the anthropomorphic qualities of objects. Each hat, collected from a place I've lived, becomes a personal symbol of memory and identity, revealing how everyday items quietly take on a human presence.



175
Gordon, age 17
Self-portrait

Acrylic paint on canvas

I took part in an art lesson on how to draw a self-portrait. I looked at myself in the mirror, studying my features closely: my eyes, nose, hair, lips, and skin colour. First, I used a pencil on paper and painted with watercolours. The next step was drawing my face with pencil on canvas and then painting it using acrylic paints.



176
Fimi, age 17
Marriage

Paint and image transfer

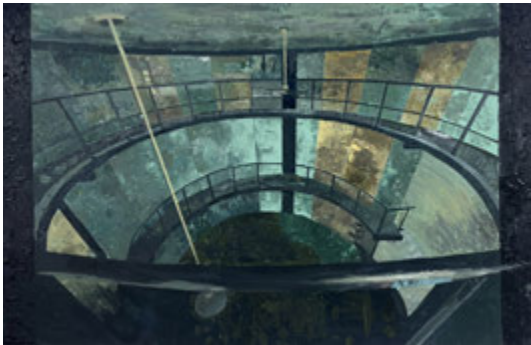
A symbolic piece showing disjointed unity and the hidden difficulties of marriage.



177
Jimmy, age 17
The District Line

Acrylic paint on canvas

The London Underground has always felt exciting to me; as a child, I spent school holidays exploring the city with my parents. The figures appear ghostly and faded to echo how memories often blur over time. I created this effect through expressive mark-making and loose brushstrokes. The overall composition and atmosphere convey the sense of reflection and nostalgia I wanted to capture.



178
Zac, age 17
Maggie's Den

Acrylic paint

This was inspired by the urban decay in my local town, Chatham, particularly the old bingo hall in Chatham that closed due to financial struggle during lockdown. I draw inspiration from contemporary artists such as Mandy Payne and Stanley Donwood, blending the minimalist, liminal architectural style of Payne's work with the harsh impasto style of Donwood's work. This piece aims to depict both the melancholy of abandonment with the textured impasto showing the visible decay over time.



179
Ella, age 17
Emerging Dragonfly

Wire, papier mâché, paint

This shows the evolution of a nymph emerging into a dragonfly. The process of creating this was made from a wire base, which was then covered in papier mâché to create a strong structure that was then painted. The wire base is fragile and delicate, then becomes strong and sturdy and beautiful, which has similarity to an emerging dragonfly.



180
Nettle, age 17
Nettle (Self-portrait)

Charcoal and chalk on paper

I wanted to make an authentic portrait to simply capture the time and place I was in. I included a vase of sunflowers in the background in order to make the portrait more personal to me, as sunflowers have personal significance to me. Planting sunflowers in the garden with my dad when I was younger was a very formative experience, and despite not having the time in recent years to plant them out, sunflowers grow in our garden regardless.



181
Martha, age 17
Untitled (Self-portrait)

Reduction lino print

This piece of work is a six layer reduction lino and was inspired by Grayson Perry's bright colours, the busy, patterned backgrounds of Madge Gill's drawings and the simple yet feminine figures seen in Annie French's work.



182
Robin, age 18
Miss Akintunde

Oil on canvas

This is a painting of the fabulous Head of Chemistry at my school. It was my final A-Level exam piece.



183
Alfie, age 18
Back to the Future

Oil pastel on paper

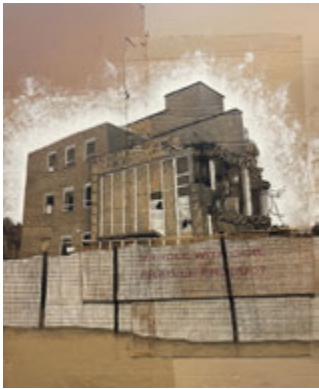
A strange conversation with an older man in the public house, he asked for a lighter but had no cigarette to light. His request was completed but he continued to stay. It felt like he had something to say. I wonder to this day what to call the interaction.



184
Ruby, age 18
Never Ending Dream

Mixed media

This work is a collage of four photos, all taken at different times, in the mountains of Eastern Turkey. They represent the oppression of the Zaza people. Each layer shows how, when they thought their suffering was over, something would change that fate again, and it would never really be over. The bottom would be a memory, similar to a dream of the past, showing a never-ending climb to freedom.



185
Mya, age 18
Handle with Care

Cardboard, charcoal and acrylic paint

My piece shows an abandoned building and explores and highlights the theme the of urban decay and neglect. This refers to the deterioration of city environments due to a lack of investment and care. Often resulting in the abandonment of buildings, infrastructure, and public spaces, it reflects systemic inequality or failed governance, which I reinforce with the phrase 'handle with care.'



186
Macy, age 18
Comfort

Coloured pencil and acrylic paint on paper

A reflective piece investigating the support and limitations of the theme 'World.'



187
Isobelle, age 18
Your Daughter

Acrylic paint on canvas

In this piece, I painted from a childhood photo. I took the viewpoint of the child, allowing me to put myself in control of the emotions surrounding this piece. I used a pink ground and left parts of it showing through, as I was trying to create a nostalgic tone.



188
Sofia, age 18
A Diary of Modern Architecture in Latin America

Acrylic and gloss paint on MDF tiles

Geometric abstractions of modern architecture in Latin America, displayed as tiles.



189
Llanura, age 18
38,325

Acrylic paint on canvas

A portrait of abstraction: my father depicted in the marks left over on his mat. Over 21 years and five prayers a day (38,325 total) he has worn down the mat, revealing a person of devotion. The painting is to scale. The mat, usually rolled or on the floor, an object of function, is mounted on a wall and transformed into an object of viewership.



190
Minel, age 18
Cocoon

Wire, recycled plastic and thread

The cocoon is inspired by the production of silk and the form of the silkworm. I was interested in using natural materials as a comment on the waste in the fashion industry.



191
Antonia, age 18
Self-portrait

Acrylic paint on canvas

I took part in an art lesson on how to draw a self-portrait. I looked at myself in the mirror, studying my features closely: my eyes, nose, hair, lips, and skin colour. First, I used a pencil on paper and painted with watercolours. The next step was drawing my face with pencil on canvas and then painting it using acrylic paints.



192
Linn, age 18
Living Room

Clay and digital animation

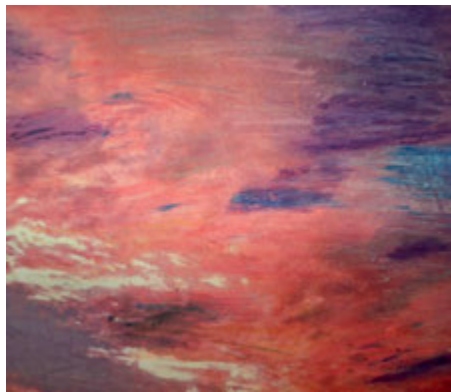
Inspired by the theme of childhood and its freedoms, this installation is of a small living room, imitating a dollhouse's tea party setting, with each piece of furniture being made with clay. In the background, a digital collage animation of a girl riding a carousel is projected onto the setting. The colours are saturated to suggest that this takes place within a child's vivid imagination through their playful interpretation of an otherwise mundane living room, reflecting the limitless freedoms of childhood.



193
Natalie, age 18
Non-stop

Acrylic paint on canvas

Non-stop places the viewer in front of a train window, forced to confront the urban environment beyond the glass. However, amongst the corporate buildings and scattered vandalism, a traditional church is framed, a minority amongst its industrial counterparts.



194
Olivia, age 18
Evening Sky

Digital print on aluminium

This image is based on one of a number of pastel studies exploring skylscapes at sunset. As I developed these pieces, I became more interested in experimenting digitally with the scale and abstraction of these smaller, more detailed images in order to focus more on expressing colour, form and texture rather than representation.



195
Morayo, age 18
Layered in Pride

Coloured pencil

This is a celebration of culture, specifically Ghanaian identity. I wanted to highlight the confidence and happiness that come from embracing your heritage. Using coloured pencil allowed me to carefully build up layers of colour and light, especially the warmth of the sun on her face, enhancing the vibrancy of the scene. The piece reflects youth, pride and the importance of cultural representation.

Young Artists' Summer Show online

Want to see more?

Explore over 330 additional works selected by our panel of judges for the online exhibition.

roy.ac/youngartists



The Royal Academy of Arts would like to thank and congratulate all of the schools, teachers, art clubs, parents and guardians who have supported the young artists’ in this year’s show.

Ada Lovelace Church of England High School
London

AJN Fine Art
East of England

Alexandra Infant School
London

All Hallows School
South West

Alleyn’s School
London

Art Club Milton Keynes
South East

Art House Ealing
London

ArtGrow School
London

Artlifestudio
South East

Barnet and Southgate College
London

Bedgrove Junior School
South East

Bernards Heath Junior School
East of England

Blackheath Preparatory School
London

Blackpool Sixth Form
North West

Blatchington Mill School and Sixth Form College
South East

Boucher Church of England Primary School
London

Bridgnorth Endowed School
West Midlands

Broomfield Primary School
East of England

Buckingham Park Primary School
South East

Bure Valley School
East of England

Burntwood School
London

Callywith College
South West

Carew Academy
London

Charles Dickens Primary School
London

Chatham & Clarendon Grammar School
South East

Checkendon CofE (A) Primary School
South East

Chelsea College of Arts
London

Chiddingstone Church of England School
South East

Christ Church CofE Primary School
South West

Christ Church Primary School, Hampstead
London

City of London Academy, Southwark
London

Claremont Fan Court School
South East

Coleridge Primary School
London

Cuffley School
East of England

Cygnets Art School
South West

Darrick Wood Infant School
London

Dorothy Stringer School
South East

Downlands Community School
South East

Drayton Manor High School
London

Easington Lane Primary School
North East

Edmund Waller Primary School
London

EKC Dover College
South East

Ellon Academy
Scotland

Elm Court School
London

Ernesford Grange Primary School
West Midlands

Farlingaye High School
East of England

Finchley Catholic High School
London

Forest Hill School
London

Francis Holland School
London

Fulfen Primary School
West Midlands

Funtington Primary School
South East

Gateway Academy
London

Glebe Farm School
South East

Haberdashers’ Aske’s Hatcham Temple Grove Free School
London

Hampton Hill Junior School
London

Hanover Primary School
London

Harris Garrard Academy
London

Heath Mount School
East of England

Highgate Wood Secondary School
London

Hillcross Primary School
London

Holland Park School
London

Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy, Handsworth
West Midlands

Home Schools
Nationwide

Horndean Technology College
South East

Hove Junior School, Holland Road
South East

Kensington Prep School
London

Kent Talents
South East

Keston CE Primary School
London

KidsArt
London

King’s School Hove
South East

Kingsdown and Ringwould CofE Primary School
South East

Kingsthorpe College
East Midlands

Kirstie Paints art school
East of England

L’Ecole de Battersea
London

Lauriston School
London

Law Primary School
Scotland

Leyton Sixth Form College
London

Leytonstone School
London

Linwood School
South West

Little Learners Childcare
East Midlands

London Colney Primary & Nursery School
East of England

Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School
South East

Longniddry Primary School
Scotland

Lord Williams’s School
South East

Lossiemouth High School
Scotland

Louth Kidgate Primary Academy
East Midlands

Luton Junior School
South East

Mellow Yellow Art School
East Midlands

Mersea Island School East of England	Seven Mills Primary School London	The Blue School CofE Primary London	Warden Hill Primary School South West
Milton Keynes College South East	Shoreditch Park Primary School Art Club London	The City of London Academy, Shoreditch Park London	Wee Artists Scotland
Moss Stitch Ceramics London	Sixth Form College Solihull West Midlands	The Fulham Boys School London	West Kirby Grammar School North West
Muswell Hill Primary School London	Solent Infant School South East	The Henley College South East	West London Free School London
Nonsuch High School for Girls South East	St Alban's Catholic Primary School East of England	The Hewett Academy, Norwich East of England	Westbury House School London
North Bromsgrove High School West Midlands	St Barnabas CofE Primary School West Midlands	The High School Leckhampton South West	Willowfield Humanities College London
Northlands Wood Community Primary School South East	St Bartholomew's Primary School London	The Holt School South East	Wiltshire College & University Centre South West
Oakham Primary School West Midlands	St Benedict's School London	The Howard School South East	Windmill Primary School South East
Oakridge Junior School South East	St Christopher's Prep South East	The Priory CofE Voluntary Aided School South East	Wiveliscombe Primary School South West
Oakwood Primary Academy South East	St Francis' College East of England	The Rackham Church of England Primary School East of England	Woodford County High School London
Park Hill Junior School West Midlands	St George's CofE Aided Primary School East Midlands	The Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School, Grantham East Midlands	Woodhouse College London
Parkdale Primary School East Midlands	St John's Preparatory and Senior School London	The Tiffin Girls' School London	Wootton Bassett Infants' School South West
Parmiter's School East of England	St Leonard's CofE (A) Primary School West Midlands	The Tyrrells School East of England	WQE East Midlands
Picassos in the Park London	St Mary's CofE Primary School, Penzance South West	Thomas Tallis School London	Yerbury Primary School London
Pickhurst Infant Academy London	St Paul's Girls' School London	Thomas's Battersea London	Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Glantaf Wales
Pokesdown Community Primary School South West	St Stephen's CofE Primary School London	Tidemill Academy London	
Prendergast School London	St Thomas' Church of England Primary School Heaton Chapel North West	Todmorden CofE J, I & N School Yorkshire and The Humber	
Queen Marys College South East	Stillness Junior School London	Truro School Preparatory School South West	
Redbridge High School North West	Stoke Newington School and Sixth Form London	UK Virtual School London	
Rickmansworth School East of England	Stoneydown Park School London	USP College East of England	
Ringwood Junior School South East	Streatham and Clapham High School London	Varndean College South East	
Ripplevale School South East	Studio 40 South East	Varndean School South East	
Rutherford House School London	Studio 8 Arts & Craft South East	Wadham School South West	
Sacred Heart Catholic School London	The Art Circle London	Walnut Tree Walk Primary School London	
Sandhurst School South East		Wanstead High School London	

Young Artists' Summer Show

To see the online exhibition
visit roy.ac/youngartists

We are an independent charity led by artists without government funding. Your generous support helps us to continue to be an academy for artists, art-makers and art lovers. Donating today will help ensure we can continue our work with schools, teachers, young people, families, and community groups.

Help us to enrich lives through art.



Visit our website for activities
and resources for families,
teachers and young people

roy.ac/families

roy.ac/teachers

roy.ac/youngpeople

RA