

# The Dalí Museum Student Surrealist Art Exhibit

## "Fears and Fascinations of the Fantastic"

Pinellas County  
January 13 – February 25, 2024

Initiated in 1985, this annual juried art exhibition presents work by Pinellas middle and high school students that explores ideas and visions similar to those of Salvador Dalí and the surrealists. This year's theme is "Fears and Fascinations of the Fantastic." It encourages students to explore the irrational, the spontaneous, the marvelous, the enigmatic and the dreamlike.

The Fantastic is not a style but a genre. It is characterized as unusual, surprising and disorienting. It challenges the rational and traditional. The Fantastic is not a style but a genre. It is characterized as unusual, surprising and disorienting. It challenges the rational and traditional. Artists associated with the Fantastic stretch back to the 1500s, and include such diverse figures as Hieronymus Bosch, Giuseppe Arcimboldo, Francisco Goya, Paul Klee, and Salvador Dalí.

Several key themes of the Fantastic are monsters and demons, dreams and temptations, the fragmented body, the supernatural and the sense of place. The Fantastic creates a moment of doubt or confusion for the viewer, making one unsure about what is being seen. It is the familiar made strange.

Dalí once said, **"...I try to create fantastical things, magical things, things like in a dream. The world needs more fantasy. Our civilization is too mechanical. We can make the fantastic real, and then it is more real than that which actually exists."**

**"Fears and Fascinations of the Fantastic" invites students to reflect on their own Fantastic ideas, creating images that surprise, shock and delight. We look forward to seeing your students' work in 2024!**

The Student Surrealist Art Exhibitions, Competition and Receptions are funded by a generous gift from an anonymous donor and in part from a program endowment fund established by the Craig and Jan Sher Philanthropic Fund. Additional support for this educational program comes from our Museum corporate partner Bloomin' Brands.

## Examples of winning art from 2023 SSAE exhibits



**Zoe Lucas**  
*Frog In My Throat*



**Anya O'Neill**  
*Dreamscape*



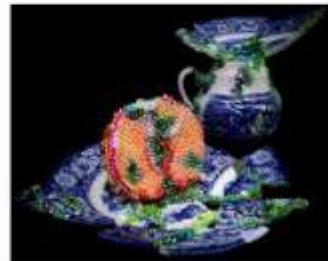
**Alana Smith**  
*False Tranquility*



**Mikaela Parrish**  
*Siren's Song*



**Emerson Lewis**  
*Consequence of Lunch and Little Sleep*



**Abby Schaefer**  
*Domestic Nightmare*



Artwork needs to be 8x10 because of the grid frame sizes

## Artist Statements

To encourage students to reflect upon their creative processes and to articulate their artistic decisions, we ask students to consider the questions below as they reflect upon their artwork. Students must limit their responses to **50-75 words** addressing the following:

- What inspired you?
- How did you respond to the **exhibit's theme**?
- What element/s of your work connect with The Fantastic?

Details:

- Artist statements are not required for the initial jurying process, but if the artwork is selected, the statement must be **emailed to [ptush@thedali.org](mailto:ptush@thedali.org)**
- Artist statements are **due by Friday, December 8.**
- Artist statements may be considered in the awards judging but scoring remains based on the merit of the artwork in accordance to the scoring rubric
- Artist statements may bolster submissions but will never be detrimental to scoring

*Please advise students that artist statements will appear on display to the public with their artwork if selected for the exhibit – please do not include private information*

## Resources

The Dalí Museum created three videos to support students and teachers as they prepare for the Student Surrealist Art Exhibit.

### *Surrealism: The Big Ideas*

11-minute introduction to Surrealism. The video reviews the history and goals of the movement, and explains Dalí's relationship to the broader group. Consider it Surrealism 101.

### *How to Make Surrealist Art*

9-minute film featuring nine exhibit-winning Pinellas art teachers who provide inspiration and ideas for students to create their own surrealist art. The video introduces surrealist techniques including dislocation, transformation and symbolism, and presents prompts to try in the classroom.

### *Why Teach Surrealist Art?*

6-minute film featuring exhibit-winning Pinellas teachers who explain to their teacher colleagues why the Student Surrealist Art Exhibit is an essential part of their curriculum.

These videos as well as online galleries of previous Student Surrealist Art Exhibits can be found at [TheDali.org/ssae](http://TheDali.org/ssae).

## Pinellas County Exhibit Dates (January 13 – February 25, 2024)

Fr. Nov. 10	Digital submissions due to Pinellas County Schools Art Office
Tu. Nov. 14	Pinellas Art Teacher Judging
Fr. Nov. 17	Dalí final selection of artwork for display
Fr. Dec. 8	Selected artworks due to the Art Office, PCS Administration Building, Largo <b>(all artwork MUST be 8"x10")</b> Student Art release form must be taped to back of mounted/matted artwork
Fr. Dec. 8	<b>Student 50-75 word artist statements must be emailed to <a href="mailto:ptush@thedali.org">ptush@thedali.org</a></b>
Tue. Dec 12	Artwork picked up at Art Office by Dali
Sa. Jan. 13	SSAE Exhibit opens
Fr. Jan. 17	Awards judging & teacher notification
Tu. Jan. 23	Reception at The Dalí, 6:30-8:30 PM
Su. Feb. 25	Last day of exhibit
First week of Mar.	Artwork returned to the Pinellas County Schools Art Office

## Entry Requirements

- Up to **6 entries per teacher** & one work per student. If two teachers submit the same student, only one will be chosen for consideration.
- Finished **work must be 8"x10"** to fit frames and cannot be thicker than ½." If work does not fit into frame, the work **will be disqualified**.
- While we cannot accept **3D objects** nor clay reliefs due to fragility, photographs of 3-D pieces are encouraged. They will be judged on the merit of the photograph first and on the merit of the object second (see photo of a winning 3D object page 2).
- **Artwork must be original** - no digital reproductions (unless documenting a 3D piece). Digital reproductions of oil paintings or drawings will not be accepted.
- Any work found to be **plagiarized** will be disqualified and removed from the exhibition.
- Work determined to be AI-generated is not allowed and will be disqualified.

## Exhibit Details

- Exhibit website: **TheDali.org/ssae**
- Open to middle and high school students in Pinellas County, Florida
- Teachers must submit student artwork; **students may not submit their own artwork**
- 117 works will be selected for exhibit (based on wall space)
- The Dalí Museum **will provide 8x10" frames** for the selected work
- Exhibit held in The Dalí Museum Raymond James Community Room. Please call before visiting the student exhibit as the Community Room occasionally closes for private events.

## Suggested Surreal Techniques to Consider:

Juxtaposition	Metamorphosis	Collage
Displacement	Dreamlike settings	Levitation
Double images	Dislocation	Transparency
Transformation	Symbolism	Scale distortion

## Artwork submission checklist:

- ✓ Up to 6 works
- ✓ Entry form (page 9)
- ✓ Signed release form (page 10)
- ✓ Artist statements (to be emailed to [ptush@thedali.org](mailto:ptush@thedali.org))

## Judication Guidelines:

- **Theme:** Artwork appropriately addresses the exhibition themes
- **Originality:** Artwork exhibits an original approach to process, concept and subject matter
- **Expression:** Artwork communicates an aesthetic vision or style and visual expression of critical thinking
- **Skill/Technique:** Artwork exhibits technical competency
- **Completeness:** Artwork exhibits thoughtful use of space and equal treatment to all elements of artwork

## Judication Scoring Rubric

Level 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shows strong evidence of integration between the <b>theme</b> and the visual work.</li><li>• Shows strong use of <b>innovation and creativity</b>.</li><li>• Communicates a strong <b>personal and/or original message</b>.</li><li>• Shows strong application of the <b>design principles</b> and excellent <b>technical</b> use of media to express ideas.</li><li>• Shows strong <b>use of space and is fully finished</b>.</li></ul>
Level 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shows good evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.</li><li>• Shows good use of innovation and creativity.</li><li>• Communicates a good personal and/or original message.</li><li>• Shows good application of the design principles and good technical use of media to express ideas.</li><li>• Shows good use of space and/or is predominantly finished</li></ul>
Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shows little evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.</li><li>• Shows little use of innovation or creativity.</li><li>• Communicates limited personal vision or original message.</li><li>• Shows limited and/or inconsistent application of the design principles.</li><li>• Novice in use of space and/or is partially unfinished</li></ul>
Level 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shows no evidence of integration between the theme and the visual work.</li><li>• Shows trite and/or simplistic approaches.</li><li>• Communicates no personal or original message, and/or is direct copy of copyrighted photographic resources.</li><li>• Shows no understanding of the design principles and/or very little or no technical competence or control of media.</li><li>• Shows poor use of space and/or elements appear to be rushed or unfinished</li></ul>

The Dalí Museum Education Department thanks you for your participation.

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## Entry Form (required)

ACCEPTED ENTRY FORM: STUDENT SURREALIST ART EXHIBIT	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fill out the form completely and attach to the back of each accepted artwork</li><li>• Check spelling of student's name and title of work.</li><li>• Indicate the orientation of the work with arrows</li></ul>	
Student Name	
Title of Work	
Media	
Grade	
School	
City	
Teacher Name First & Last	
Teacher Email	

## Student Artwork Permission Form (required)

Dear Parent/Guardian,

**Your child's artwork has been selected to be exhibited at The Dalí Museum in the Pinellas County Student Surrealist Art Exhibit.** This annual art exhibit presents work by middle and high school students whom we invite to explore ideas similar to those explored by Salvador Dalí and the surrealists. **Your child's artwork will be exhibited in The Dalí Museum's Raymond James Community Room from January 13 – February 25, 2024.** There will be a reception on Tuesday, January 23. An invitation will be provided by the art teacher. If you plan to visit at a different time, we recommend calling beforehand to confirm that the gallery is open (it is used for limited private events).

Please read and sign the release form below, and **return to your child's art teacher or email to [ptush@thedali.org](mailto:ptush@thedali.org).**

Sincerely,  
*The Dalí Museum Education Team*

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The student and parent/guardian give their permission to The Dalí Museum for uses and displays of **the student's artwork** and artist statement to include, without limitation, display and exhibition on the Internet, on television, in publications, and at Museum events. Permission is also given to the Museum to reproduce the artwork and artist statement for use in Museum publications including, without limitation, brochures, pamphlets, and flyers. The Museum shall not be liable for any third-party reproduction or redistribution of artwork so used, displayed, or reproduced by the Museum pursuant to this permission. While care will be taken to ensure that all artwork will be handled in such manner that no damage or loss is incurred, the Museum shall not be held responsible for any damage or loss that might occur.

Title/description of artwork: \_\_\_\_\_

Art teacher name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name of student artist: \_\_\_\_\_

Print name of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of student artist:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date: