The 17th Annual New York State Chinese Painting Contest Award Winning Pieces 2010
The theme of the contest is *Celebrate the Learning of the Chinese Culture.*

This painting contest is designed to support of the New York State academic standards. The painting contest:

1. promotes a better understanding of Chinese history, culture and contributions;
2. motivates and inspires creativity, artistry, and literacy development;
3. incorporates research-based learning; and
4. develops an aesthetic appreciation of the arts.

Contestants need to submit a piece of artwork along with a short description explaining how the artwork manifests the contestant’s understanding and appreciation of the Chinese culture.
Grades K - 2
The dragon scared away the bad spirits. Dragons are good luck. Dragons are protection for us.

The Chinese people hold up the dragon during the festival. They are fun.
I drew a picture of a tiger because it is the Chinese New Year, and it is the year of tiger.

First I drew the tigers, Second I drew the setting. The last thing I did was paint the drawing.

Honorable Mention – Joslyn Donovan – 2nd Grade
P.S. 96 Richard Rodgers School
My drawing shows a tiger standing on rocks. The tiger is at a parade.
The picture is about a game that Koreans are doing on a Lunar New Year. The game is easy to play but a little bit difficult to explain. Doing the game is the best way to learn the game itself and Korean culture. This game is usually played during the winter. Sticks are used to play the game.

Second Place – Junhi Cho – 2nd Grade
P.S. 46 Alley Pond Primary School
花木兰是中国古代的一位女英雄。她从小就开始习武，长大后代替她爸爸去打仗。因为那时候女孩子不能参军，她就女扮男装。花木兰打了很多胜仗，后来她当了将军。她又一匹黑色的马，叫黑风。花木兰骑在上面，很神气。从花木兰身上我可以学到：女孩子可以做任何男孩子做的事情，有时甚至可以比男孩子做得更好！
Grades 3 - 5
I drew the Great Wall because I think it’s really important to China. I’ve seen many pictures of the Great Wall. But I like the picture that I drew the most. I think the Great Wall is truly amazing because it was nominated the 5th wonder of the world. I also think it is amazing because it was built a long time ago and they didn’t have much tools then and even without them they still made it. It is the only architecture that can be seen from space!

Honorable Mention – Alice Luo - 5th Grade
Link Elementary School
I chose the harmony, friend and grace symbols for my Chinese Brush Painting because I enjoy having so many nice friends, and Grace is my middle name. I learned a lot about Chinese Brush Painting; like your painting is not just copying nature it is your impression of what you see. I’ve never done Chinese Brush painting before, but I enjoy it so much that I am going to do it a lot more. I think Chinese Brush Painting is beautiful. I also learned that the chop is used as the artist signature and a character a picture or figure made brush strokes.
My art teacher Ms. Miller-Deas told the class that 2010 is the year of the tiger. She told the class that in China, each year is named after one of the twelve animals.

In celebration of this I drew a tiger. I sketched it in pencil. I used a black marker to outline my tiger then I colored it and used water color paint over my painting. This is how I made my artwork.
I drew a firecracker, gold coin, red envelope, lantern, tangram, abacus, a sign that says: fire mountain, a sign that says: forest and a sign that says women. I drew it because:

Lantern is a thing that children go out at lantern festival. They put lights inside the lantern to scare evil spirits. The red envelope is a sign that represents good luck and wishes to the ancestors not to be old. The gold coin is also a way to represent good luck at the ancient times. The firecracker is to scare bad spirits away. The tangram is a Chinese puzzle played on lantern festival and it is a game that makes a lot of different shapes. The abacus is a Chinese calculator. The three signs are some of the Mandarin character.
I decided to draw a picture of Chinese pond. Chinese ponds are beautiful and include many elements of nature. They contain plants such as ferns, bamboo, and tall grasses. In the pond, there are goldfish and lotus flowers both of which are symbols in Chinese culture.

Goldfish are a symbol of surplus and wealth. A gift of goldfish is a blessing in hopes of bringing fortune. The lotus flower has a religious meaning. A pink lotus is the most important color and is considered a connection to Buddha. Its meaning represents purity, respect, evolution and potential.
The picture shows children celebrating Chinese New Year.

They are singing and dancing. They are having a parade down the park. They are performing for people. This happens every year for Chinese New Year.

Every year thousands of people want to be in the play. The crew who is in charge only picks 30 people.
Grades 6 - 8
My work is about a kid painting the Chinese dragon and how this relates to the subject of Chinese culture is because on Chinese New Year a dragon is included in this special event. What the dragon does is scare away the evil spirits during the celebration. A lot of people, including myself, are inspired by what the dragon does and I think it would be worthwhile to depict that topic in any artwork.

Honorable Mention – Song Chen- 7th Grade
William Mc Kinley Intermediate School
Chinese culture is very interesting. There can be many different things you can learn. There are holidays, food and traditions. My artwork is a boy disguised as a Chinese dragon.

This Chinese dragon is worn and celebrated on Chinese New Year. This celebration is a part of Chinese culture. These dragons are worn by dancers who usually go on the streets to entertain many people. This tradition shows spirit and luck.

In my artwork, there is a boy wearing one of these Chinese dragons. He is showing spirit and that is another part culture from a picture.
Flowers are usually given to those you love or if you are grateful for someone and I have always been infatuated with flowers. I chose to design my artwork with this in mind. I used my favorite colors in the red and blue family. The color red symbolizes wealth and prosperity while the yellow is symbolic of joy, happiness and long life. Blue represents water and sky, something that is always changing like the bud on a flower. Flowers always give me joy and make me smile as they do when I give flowers to my mother. The beautiful landscapes, gardens, flowers and bird paintings in addition to the busy bustling streets of Chinatown were influential in creating this work of art.

Honorable Mention – Lauren Lynch - 7th Grade
P.S./I.S. 87 Middle Village Intermediate School
我是来自中国的一位小女孩。我画的是一幅荷花图。这图描绘了荷花在墨叶上，这可以明显突出那洁白的花瓣。那些调皮可爱的金鱼快乐地在荷花池中嬉戏，它们从这棵水草游到那棵水草，好像在捉迷藏，多么的无忧无虑啊！

清丽脱俗的荷花是多么的纯洁，而且它是中国十大名花之一。荷花又名水宫仙子，是我国著名的水生花卉。荷花的花期是七月至八月，果熟期是九月，莲藕和莲子可食用。莲蓬和莲子心可入药，有清热，安神之效。荷花又美又有很多益处。

我喜欢荷花，我也羡慕它。因为它纯洁高雅，很有欣赏价值又能食用，真是个宝啊！如果你们夏天去中国旅游的话，一定要去看荷花哦！我希望我长大以后，也像荷花一样为社会多做些贡献，我希望你们看了我的画也像我一样那么喜欢荷花。
My work shows a girl reading a book and a bubble comes out. It shows the temples which I was inspired by the Forbidden City in China. Behind the temples it is how Hong Kong and China look like now. I wanted to show how much the city has changed. The temples are related to my learning experiences of learning about Chinese culture. I learned about different dynasties and emperors who lived in the temples. I also learned how much work was done to create temples which are now filled with history.
My work is a painting of a traditional Chinese garden. The medium used for this was acrylic paint. From painting this garden scenery I’ve discovered different ways of painting that allows me to blend and bring out each area’s colors.

This garden has two lakes and a thin plain bridge that divides it. There are two places where social gatherings can be held on both sides of the painting. Rocks surround many different parts of the garden and different trees are placed in many places with similar colors that blend together. The scenery with its smooth blending colors creates a soothing and calm atmosphere.

First Place – Lin Xue - 8th Grade
J.H.S. 189 Daniel Carter Beard Junior High School
Grades 9 - 12
The subject of my painting is nature. The atmosphere of my painting is very calming and I can imagine sitting under the tree, relaxing my mind just like how the Chinese people meditate. The tree I painted has the values of dark and light and it is just like Yin and Yang, and the values in my painting balance out. The materials that I used are also from nature, such as the Sumi brush’s bamboo handle, the sable bristles and the ink, connecting to Chinese people’s relationship to nature.

Honorable Mention – Ning-Ning Chen- 10th Grade, NYC Museum School
Learning about Chinese culture I saw that they used a lot of flowers and animals. In my watercolor I included a bird looking over at a few flowers.

The Chinese use beautiful colors and different brush strokes to create their art work, and I tried to do the same.

Honorable Mention- Maureen Sanasie-11th Grade Richmond Hill High School
The Chinese culture as shown in my landscape is very diverse and versatile. It can vary from landscapes to people. The Chinese rely heavily in the natural water supplies to maintain their daily lives; something I saw to be a crucial part of their culture. I researched on the internet on various waterfall and irrigation waterways. By viewing the different styles of waterfalls and rivers, I recreated a waterfall based on many other waterfalls.

Honorable Mention – Anthony Reyes- 11th Grade Richmond Hill High School
The picture I drew is of a tiger. In the Chinese culture the tiger is portraited as a figure of royalty and good luck, a noble figure in the Chinese culture and valor. I choose to draw a tiger because this idol of an animal is very interesting. From its face by seeing the tiger’s eyes you can memorize at sight, which inspired me to work mainly on its head area.
This is a Chinese painting. Most of the Chinese paintings reflect their culture, nature, animals etc. I have noticed in some of the movies that the style of dressing and life style of Chinese people is closely related to there culture. They worship nature and respect their culture, values and traditions. My painting is all about Chinese culture. It shows the way ancient Chinese woman used to get dressed. The jewelry and the leaves in the background represent Chinese culture and value of nature.
之所以我会选择画虎是因为虎是一种很有审美理念的动物。很多艺术家会以国画的方式来描绘出虎的魅力。更重要的是，2010年是虎年，生肖文化还是中国民俗文化之一。

在我创作我的作品时，我了解到在中国大多数的东北虎生长在长白山。但由于大量的捕杀食草动物，东北虎的数量越来越少。因此我希望通过我的作品让更多人了解中国文化及保护野生动物的重要性。

First Place – Le-Ying Zhang- 11th Grade
LaGuardia Performing Arts High School
Our special thanks to:

NYCDOE Office of English Language Learners
New York University Metro Center