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**WINNING ARTWORKS BY NORTHERN IRELAND STUDENTS GO ON EXHIBITION AT ULSTER MUSEUM**

Belfast’s Ulster Museum is to be the venue for an exhibition of 126 winning paintings from this year’s 65th Texaco Children’s Art Competition in which nine works by Northern Ireland students will feature.

The official opening – to which this year's winning artists have been invited – will take place at noon on Thursday, 14th November next.

A top Northern Ireland prize-winner whose artwork features in the exhibition is Alfie Whyte (8), a pupil at Cloughogue Primary School, Newry, who won first prize in the 7-8 years age category of the Competition for his work entitled 'My Brother Charlie'.

Also exhibiting will be works by special merit winners Alanna Sloss (17), a pupil at Southern Regional College, Lurgan Campus, Craigavon; Evan Montague Leake (6) from St. Joseph's Primary School, Crumlin; Zara Craig (11) from Fairview Primary School, Ballyclare; Lillia Gordon (8) from Diamond Primary School, Ballymena; Róis Hutton (15), from Thornhill College, Derry; Patrick Tweedie (13), from Regent House Grammar School, Newtownards and Sofiya Myronova (11) and Jarlath Swail (17), both from St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon.

Of the nine works by Northern Ireland students, three are from County Antrim, two from Armagh, two from Tyrone and one each from Derry and Down.

The exhibition will remain open to the public from 10am to 5pm each day from Tuesday to Sunday until Sunday 5th January next. Admission is free. In advance of attending, visitors are advised to contact Ulster Museum by calling 028 9044 0000 as the gallery may occasionally be used for private functions.

***Note for the attention of Photo Editors:  Attached are JPEG images of the three top winning works from Northern Ireland students in this year's 2019 Texaco Children's Art Competition.***

**JPEG 1: Alfie Whyte (8), a pupil at Cloughogue Primary School, Newry (1st prize, Category E) with his work entitled 'My Brother Charlie'.**

**JPEG 2: ‘Emily’ by Alanna Sloss (17), from Southern Regional College, Lurgan Campus, Craigavon (Special merit, Category A)**

**JPEG 3: ‘Sarah’ by Patrick Tweedie (13), from Regent House Grammar School, Newtownards (Special merit, Category C)**

ENDS

**Editor’s Notes:**

1. The Texaco Children’s Art Competition is celebrating its 65th anniversary this year. For further information about the Competition, contact Don Hall (mobile 087-2552699), Ashley Hall (mobile 086-3127774) or Maximilien McKenna (mobile 086-7848464) at Hall PR on 01-660 9377 (office) or email pr@hall.ie. For more information on Valero Energy (Ireland) Limited, contact Bronagh Carron on (+353) 01 6258208 or email bronagh.carron@valero.com
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