

## *Sister Cities of Houston Young Artists and Authors Showcase 2018*

### *Theme: The Art of Diplomacy*

Sister Cities International aims to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation – one individual, one community at a time. This year's theme, "The Art of Diplomacy" highlights the importance of citizen diplomacy and the innovative ways citizen diplomats achieve peace through people-to-people interaction.

Students are encouraged to draw inspiration from their experiences with sister cities, travel, exchange, international friendships, and the many ways that people cultivate relationships across cultures.

*The deadline to submit entries to Sister Cities Houston is March 30th, 2018.*

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Each year, the Young Artists and Authors Showcase (YAAS) encourages youth from around the globe to express the mission of Sister Cities International through original artwork, literature, film, and photography.

Showcasing their imagination, creativity, and passion for world peace, students interpret a designated annual theme interpretation. **Each Grand Prize Winner is awarded \$1,000.**

This program is a great opportunity to reach out to the community and engage local English and art teachers, and reach a student audience that may not already be included in sister city programming. After the finalists for art, literature, film, and photography have been announced, their works embark on a yearlong tour hosted by local sister city programs on a monthly basis. This opportunity is available to any sister city program and can help expand local youth programming.