



Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival 2023

Best of Show

Gabriela Vera - "Hiding Black-crested Titmouse in Branches"

Teacher: Yesenia Toscano, Roma High School, Roma ISD

Student Art Contest Winners

Grade	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Honorable Mention
12th	Christian Castro "Taking a Break in Nature" Gabriela Gonzalez Edinburg North High School Edinburg CISD	Ashley Mejia "Owlbert" Gabriela Gonzalez Edinburg North High School Edinburg CISD	Magdalena Rodriguez Hernandez "Fishing Kingfisher" Francisco X. Garcia Pace Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Dafne Perez "Soledad / Solitude" Jacqueline Garza Edinburg High School Edinburg CISD
11th	Rachel Mireles "Bird on a Branch" Francisco X. Garcia Pace Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Leila Moya "The Crystal Gaze" Gabriela Gonzalez Edinburg North High School Edinburg CISD	Sahatya Valadez-Acosta "Scissors Catch" Erica D. Trevino Pace Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Daira A. Trevino-Sanchez "Chirrido Verde" Johanna Villarreal Edinburg High School Edinburg CISD
10th	Gabriela Vera "Hiding Black-crested Titmouse in Branches" Yesenia Toscano Roma High School Roma ISD	Juan Camacho "Love Birds" Manuel Saenz Edinburg North High School Edinburg CISD	Julianna Marines "Perched Hawk" Yesenia Toscano Roma High School Roma ISD	Jose Flores "Deserted Soul" Larissa Barron Edinburg North High School Edinburg CISD
9th	Victoria Garcia "Rosette" Sarahi Garcia Roma High School Roma ISD	Regina Saenz "El Cardenal" Sarahi Garcia Roma High School Roma ISD	Jizelle Gonzalez "Little Bird" Sarahi Garcia Roma High School Roma ISD	Monique Salinas "The Black and White Bird" Maritzabel Salinas Edinburg North High School Edinburg CISD
8th	Valeria Gaona "A Quiet Place" Mrs. R. Gaona Lucio Middle School Brownsville ISD	Samia A. Del Angel "A Look Around the Meadow" David Castro Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Diego Ramirez "Amazing Bird Sighting" Daniel Trevino Roma Middle School Roma ISD	Estibaliz Nava "Beauty of the Sunset" Xochitl Garcia Ramiro Barrera Middle School Roma ISD

Student Art Contest Winners

Grade	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Honorable Mention
7th	Yareli Beltran "Hunter" Alberto Echavarria Oliveira Middle School Brownsville ISD	Daira Gonzalez "The Flight" Michael D. Holmes Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Klaudia Gonzalez "Spring Bloom" David Castro Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Alyssa Trevino "Hooked-bill Kite" Raquel Hinojosa Liberty Middle School PSJA ISD
6th	Jazzlyn Guevara "The Perch" Michael D. Holmes Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Brianna Gracia "The Blue Dot" Michael D. Holmes Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Rogelio Cantu "Searching" Ms. Lili Trevino Roma Middle School Roma ISD	Adelyn Toller "Yellow Warbler" Isela Carrasco Moises Vela Middle School Harlingen CISD
5th	Alexandra Garcia "Sweet Delicious" Ms. Lili Trevino Emma Vera Elementary Roma ISD	Ava Saucedo "Altamira Oriole" Ana Marie Resendez Lee H. Means Elementary Fine Arts Academy Harlingen CISD	Kimberly Rodriguez "Beautiful Hummingbird" Megan Johnson J.W. Caceres Discovery Intermediate Academy Donna ISD	Alicia D. Garcia "Goal Driven" Ms. Lili Trevino Emma Vera Elementary Roma ISD

Student Writing Contest Winners

Grade	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Honorable Mention
12th	Horacio Trevino "Rio Grande Birds" Mr. Galvan Thelma R. Salinas T-STEM Early College HS La Joya ISD	Ruben Flores "The Blazing Bird" Mr. Galvan Thelma R. Salinas T-STEM Early College HS La Joya ISD	Kayla Lemaster "Birds of the Rio Grande" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Rafael Mora "Green Grace in the Valley" Lucinda Zamora Wiley Harlingen High School Harlingen CISD
11th	David Rodriguez "A Treasure So Fine" E. Galvan Thelma R. Salinas T-STEM Early College HS La Joya ISD	Jaylen Cantu "The Cardinal" Christina Saucedo Harlingen School of Health Professions Harlingen CISD	Jenna Flores "Flycatcher Fly Free" Christina Saucedo Harlingen School of Health Professions Harlingen CISD	Maiya Tagle "Cardinal Bird" Christina Saucedo Harlingen School of Health Professions Harlingen CISD
10th	Damien Villanueva "Dawn's Overture" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Mia Saldivar "White-tipped Dove" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Miley Guerra "Oh Green Jays" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Antonella Castro "Earthy Hues" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD

Student Writing Contest Winners

Grade	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Honorable Mention
9th	Alondra Araiza "The Melodic Maestro of the Rio Grande Valley" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Sophia Escobar "Tropical Kingbird" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Aixa Garcia "Elf Owl" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD	Sunil Salcedo "Ringed Kingfisher" Adriana Tovar Hanna Early College High School Brownsville ISD
8th	Alyson Martinez "A Green Jay" Daniel Trevino Roma Middle School Roma ISD	Chloe Ramirez "Indigo Bunting" Rebecca Robles Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Pedro Medellin "Red-crowned Parrot" Rebecca Robles Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Sergio Ruiz "Great Kiskadee" Rebecca Robles Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD
7th	Carly Ann Hernandez "Black-Bellied Whistling-Duck" Rebecca Robles Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Fatima Abundiz "An Amazing Sight" Erica Elizondo Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Gabriel Martinez "Ha Ha Ha" Erica Elizondo Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Aria Cantu "The Blue Grosbeak" Rebecca Robles Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD
6th	Daisy Correa "The Little Blue Heron" Norma Larrazolo Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Camilla Deleon "The White-tipped Dove" Mrs. Avendano Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Katelynn Ortega "The Beauty Bird" Norma Larrazolo Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Miguel Martinez "The Magnificent Frigatebird" Norma Larrazolo Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD
5th	Venelope Rueda Galvan "Palomas Alas Blancas" Rosie Garza San Isidro Elementary School San Isidro ISD	Izaiah Gonzalez "Orange Wonders" Elizabeth Tanguma Waitz Elementary Media & Comm. Academy Mission CISD	Gael Salazar "Great Kiskadee" Elizabeth Tanguma Waitz Elementary Media & Comm. Academy Mission CISD	Carina Avila "Bright Altamira Oriole" Elizabeth Tanguma Waitz Elementary Media & Comm. Academy Mission CISD

Student Photography Contest Winners

Grade	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Honorable Mention
9th-12th	Robert Schmidt "Pond Lookout" Cassandra Martinez South Texas ISD World Scholars South Texas ISD	Lorenzo Toscano "Grey & Green" Christina Saucedo Harlingen School of Health Professions Harlingen CISD	Angel Trevino "At Rest" Nilda Valle Jimmy Carter Early College High School La Joya ISD	Christal Maldonado "Scarlet" Nilda Valle Jimmy Carter Early College High School La Joya ISD
5th-8th	Phoenix Nunez "Roadrunner" Melissa Nunez Homeschool McAllen, TX	Troy Alaniz "Fledgling Takes First Flight" Elizabeth Minto-Bauer Coakley Middle School Harlingen CISD	Ryan Holmes "The Three Amigos" Michael D. Holmes Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD	Mathew Lucas "The Hunt" Michael D. Holmes Manzano Middle School Brownsville ISD

All winning entries will be displayed at the festival tradeshow November 9-12. Trophies and prizes will be presented at a special awards ceremony on Sunday, November 12, at 1:30 pm at The Harlingen Convention Center, 701 Harlingen Heights Drive. All winning entries can be picked up at the tradeshow display after the ceremony. All other entries can be picked up at the festival tradeshow on November 9-12 from 12-4pm.