

# OC VARSITY ARTS

ARTISTS OF THE YEAR SPECIAL EDITION

## TOP 10 *film*

**nominees:**

From left, Anthony Liechti, Orange County School of the Arts; Jonathan Phillips, Orange County School of the Arts; Ryan Rusin, Los Alamitos High School; Katie Maynard, Canyon High School; Ian Kolaja, El Dorado High School. The others are listed inside.



LEONARD ORTIZ, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# QUEST FOR THE BEST

**THIS WEEK:** MEET OUR CANDIDATES FOR ARTIST OF THE YEAR IN FILM AND VISUAL ARTS CATEGORIES. **NEXT WEEK:** INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL MUSIC. **APRIL 23:** THEATER AND DANCE.



ED CRISOSTOMO, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## TOP 10 *visual arts*

**nominees:** From left, Kevin Dang, Orange County School of the Arts; Courtney Strafaldas, JSerra Catholic High School; Dahye Chung, Crean Lutheran High School; Amanat Singh, Sunny Hills High School; Nathan Meier, Laguna Beach High School; Kathryn Fuller, Newport Harbor High School; and Kenzi Brush, Orange Lutheran High School. The others are listed inside.

BY HEIDE JANSSEN  
VARSITY ARTS EDITOR

ON FEB. 17, Varsity Arts published the nominees for our second-season Artists of the Year. These juniors and seniors, nominated by their high schools, represent the top theater, dance, instrumental music, vocal music, visual arts and film/video artists from our county's schools.

After reading statements from the teachers and nominated students, reviewing performances and submitted artwork,

and perusing the artistic resumes of the nominees, we, with the help of a panel of arts teachers, have narrowed the complete list of 213 nominees to a Top 10 in each discipline for a total of 60 finalists.

This week, we present the Top 10 nominees in visual arts and film. Initially, 56 students were nominated in visual arts and 26 students were nominated in film. In profiling the artists, we have included quotes from them that refer to the work they have submitted for consideration.

Visual artists include those who work in

painting, drawing, digital and film photography, ceramics, sculpture, multimedia and graphic design. Filmmakers include those who work as directors, producers, cinematographers, editors, writers and animators on fiction films, nonfiction/documentaries, 2D and 3D animation and video game design.

The next two issues of Varsity Arts will reveal the Top 10 nominees in instrumental music and vocal music (April 16) and theater and dance (April 23).

Later this month, the Top 10 in each cate-

gory will be interviewed by a panel of experts in their discipline, including distinguished artistic professionals and faculty members from Southern California universities as well as the arts writers from the Register and a few representative high school teachers. During the interviews, the students will present their art form, and afterward the panels will decide who will be named Artist of the Year for each discipline.

The winners will be announced May 21 in Varsity Arts.