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Juliette Fowler Communities Residents Take Top Awards in Multiple Categories at the LeadingAge Texas 32nd Annual ArtsInspire Contest

A haven of creativity, Juliette Fowler Communities is blessed with many talented artists, writers, and musicians

DALLAS, TEXAS – August 18, 2022 – Four residents from Juliette Fowler Communities were honored with top awards on August 13 in Austin, Texas, at the 32nd Annual <u>ArtsInspire</u> contest, organized by the nonprofit <u>LeadingAge Texas</u>. First place honors were given to: **Merry Fuhrer** in the Drawing category for "Dominoes Night;" **Gusteen Trimble** for her piece, titled "Study in Grey," in the Majestic Arts category; and **Liz Brogdon** in the Soft Crafts: Textile category for her "Halloween Crochet Hat." **Joy Pendleton** was honored with second place in the Soft Crafts Decorative category for "Needle Point."

LeadingAge Texas receives over 200 entries from seniors over the age of 62 each year for the ArtsInspire annual competition, showcasing ageless creativity and talents for Texans from nonprofit aging services communities across the state. The works of art are judged by university professors, artists and authors. Three of the winners from Juliette Fowler Communities traveled to Austin for the awards ceremony held at Westminster, a senior living home.

When asked about their award-winning art pieces, the JFC residents shared their connections to their work.

Merry Fuhrer describes herself as a late bloomer artist who loves to draw. "My drawing called 'Dominoes Night' is a portrait of some friends of mine at Juliette Fowler Communities that I genuinely love. They like to play dominoes in the common area of our residence, and they let me draw them while they play. I try to capture the action in various moments through their gestures and body language."

"My piece, titled 'Study in Grey,' represents my journey through the healing process after I had been diagnosed with colon cancer," said Gusteen Trimble. Trimble has three daughters, eight grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren who are the lights of her life.

Liz Brogdon first began crocheting as a teenager with her mother on small projects. "I would continue to challenge myself on more difficult projects." Brogdon's piece, 'Halloween Crochet Hat,' is one of many crocheted items she has made for her three beloved grandchildren.

Joy Pendleton put much thought and planning into her piece, titled 'Needle Point,' representing her family tree. "Blue names are males, red are females, and flowers represent siblings. The tree represents our family and the names in green are still living. I have always loved to express creativity through needlepoint," said Pendleton.

"We are so proud of our residents and their accomplishments, and are blessed with so many talented artists, writers, and musicians who are residents at Juliette Fowler Communities," said Nicole Gann. "We encourage art among all residents whether a lifelong passion or a new hobby. Art inspires creativity and brings joy and fulfillment while serving as a conduit to meaningful moments across all levels of care. As an I'm Still Here[®] Center for Excellence in Dementia Care, we also know that art and music are important ways to connect with those living with Alzheimer's and related dementias as these types of abilities do not diminish with time."

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Juliette Fowler Communities is a unique faith-based, intergenerational community of residents at various life-stages. Located on 20 picturesque acres, Juliette Fowler Communities provides independent and assisted living, a Five-Star Quality Rated skilled nursing and rehabilitation center, memory care and affordable senior housing. As the only certified I'm Still Here® Center for Excellence in Dementia Care in North Texas and one of only two in Texas, Fowler's program employs evidence-based techniques to adapt experiences to an individual's cognitive abilities and strengths. It has also been named a Great Place to Work in the Aging Services Industry in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. Children, youth, and family services at Fowler include foster and adoption services, a residential program for women ages 18-24 at risk for homelessness due to neglect, abuse, and aging out of the foster care system, and a new Youth Support Center – a one-stop location to help Dallas youth, both boys and girls ages 12-24, escape or avoid human trafficking and exploitation. Visit fowlercommunities.org or call 214.827.0813.