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## PRESS RELEASE

### KIDS TAG ART PROGRAM BREAKS \$100k

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2021

Press Release 21-01

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**Shalimar, FL**– Okaloosa County Tax Collector Ben Anderson was joined by Superintendent Marcus Chambers and Sheriff Eric Aden in presenting certificates to three Choice Award winners before the School Board meeting Monday night during the Kids Tag Art program presentation. The remaining 20 Award of Distinction winners received their certificates prior to the end of the 2020-21 school year and are listed below.

The Kids Tag Art program is a partnership with the Tax Collector’s Office and the School District. **Since the program started in 2013, it has generated \$103,195.22 for participating schools.** As an art project, this program gives students a chance to create their own specialty license plate. As a fundraiser, those student-created plates can be purchased by parents and the proceeds from school sales stay in that school.

Combining in-school sales and local sponsorships, the Kids Tag Art program earned **\$10,655.16** this Spring. Tax Collector Ben Anderson points out, “This is non-tax generated revenue and comes at a time when the art curriculum in schools could benefit the most.” He continues, “Each school that participated this Spring received checks for \$500.00, as the result of the generous support of our sponsor: The Okaloosa County Sheriff’s Office.” The Kids Tag Art program will kick off again in August for the upcoming school year. If you or your business are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Shari Bruns at 850-651-7669.

Complete list of Award of Distinction winners are:

<b>Bluewater:</b> Carter Vargo Jaidyn Feddon	<b>Bob Sikes:</b> Bennett Muhlbach Grace Holley	<b>Destin Elementary:</b> Anna Kate Hall Jessica McPherson	<b>Edge:</b> Katelyn Romero Evelyn McElvaine
<b>Elliott Point:</b> Janie Sirmans Kristin Fransted	<b>Northwood:</b> Oliver Jackson Nathaniel Horton	<b>Riverside:</b> Naylani Parker Annalee Gonzales	<b>Shalimar:</b> Georgia Pierce Gabriel Hammett
<b>Silver Sands:</b> Hayden Douglas Gabriel Lockhart	<b>Walker:</b> Caliber Chessher Caleb Arvanetes	<b>Tax Collector’s Choice:</b> Maila Martin – Northwood <b>Sheriff’s Choice:</b> Thomas Cheek – Elliott Point <b>Superintendent’s Choice:</b> Emma Amador – Riverside	

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