



WILL ROBERTS TAX COLLECTOR

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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2024

Sugar Mill Elementary receives nearly \$4,400 from Kids Tag Art program

DeLand, Fla. – Teacher Faith Scrivano has plans for the nearly \$4,400 she received from the Volusia County Tax Collector’s Kids Tag Art Program. The Sugar Mill Elementary School art teacher plans to purchase much-needed supplies.

“We use paper all the time and crayons are one of our most used items!” Scrivano said. “Without these items we won’t be able to create! The kids’ favorite project at the end of every year is weaving. Knowing that I will have the items available for them to do the weaving projects every year will help them to have fun with art.”

For the 2023-2024 school year, each Volusia County public school elementary art teacher received \$75 per school from the school district to purchase art supplies for the year, according to Bryce Hammond, Volusia County Schools visual art specialist. At Sugar Mill Elementary School, that equates to about 20 cents per student. Each school can provide limited additional funds, but this amount varies from school to school.

Scrivano was the first art teacher to sign on for the program’s inaugural year in September 2023. That’s when Volusia County Tax Collector Will Roberts launched the program in Volusia County to raise much-needed funding for arts education while also teaching students about the State’s specialty license plate program.

“I am thrilled at the success of the first year of this program to raise funds to support the Sugar Mill Elementary School art program, knowing that every contribution enhances the creative education of our students,” added Volusia County Tax Collector Will Roberts. “Our generous sponsors play a crucial role in bringing arts education to life, fostering creativity and innovation in art classrooms. We appreciate their support and commitment to nurturing the next generation of artists and thinkers.”

For the inaugural year, the Office partnered with the Port Orange school and began with a lesson about Florida’s specialty license plates including how plate sales benefit specific organizations. Scrivano then extended the lesson by working with students to design a vanity-type plate that expresses a cause that interests the students. Parents and the community had the opportunity to purchase the student-created plates. All proceeds from plate sales stayed with the school’s art program.

Net sponsorship proceeds funded the Kids Tag Art donation to the school. Halifax Health signed on as the platinum sponsor. The program partners with FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools to ensure all net proceeds are sent directly to participating art programs.

For the 2024-2025 school year, 11 elementary schools representing east and west Volusia County have signed up to participate. Net sponsorship proceeds will be divided equally among participating schools. Additional schools will be invited to participate over the following three years.

Sponsorship opportunities are available. Information is online at vctaxcollector.org/art.

As part of the program, students earn awards from the school and from sponsors, who select their favorite student-designed vanity plate. Nine students from Sugar Mill Elementary School received Kids Tag Art awards.

In 2023, 14 other elected tax collectors across the State offered Kids Tag Art programs to educate students about Florida's specialty license plate program and to raise much-needed revenue earmarked for the arts.



Sponsor's Award: Halifax Health

From left: John Guthrie, Halifax Health vice president of communications, Faith Scrivano, art teacher, Dr. Michelle Carter, Halifax Health Foundation board member, Volusia County Tax Collector Will Roberts, Hannah H., and Sugar Mill Elementary School Principal Carol Sullo.



Sponsor's Award: Embassy of Hope

From left: Art teacher Faith Scrivano, Principal Carol Sullo, and student Marcellena S., all from Sugar Mill Elementary School, Dr. Michelle Carter, executive director of Vince Carter's Embassy of Hope Foundation, and Will Roberts, Volusia County Tax Collector.



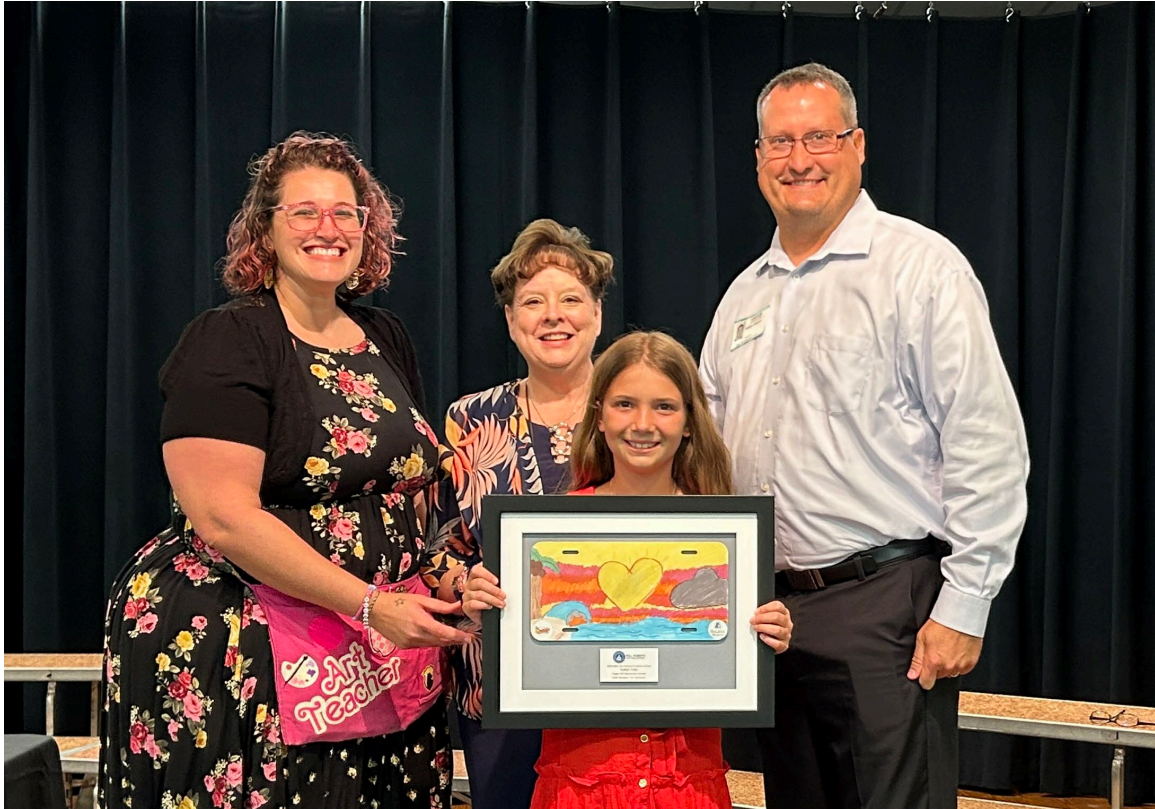
Sponsor's Award: Hudson Technologies

From left: Art teacher Faith Scrivano, Principal Carol Sullo, and student Jason P., all from Sugar Mill Elementary School, Nick Mastrantonio, Hudson Technologies tooling design manager, and Will Roberts, Volusia County Tax Collector.



Sponsor's Award: FUTURES Foundation for Volusia County Schools

From left: Art teacher Faith Scrivano, Principal Carol Sullo, and student Sabriya S., all from Sugar Mill Elementary School, Shimene Shepard, FUTURES Foundation executive director, and Will Roberts, Volusia County Tax Collector.



Tax Collector's Award:

From left: Art teacher Faith Scrivano, Principal Carol Sullo, and student Delilah F., all from Sugar Mill Elementary School, and Volusia County Tax Collector Will Roberts.

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