'TIS THE SEASON

2015
Celebrate the season and view the creativity of Texans from across the state. The House Chamber Christmas Tree is currently on display and features visual representations of what makes each House district special.

Members of the Texas House of Representatives were invited to create a visual representation of what makes their district special for the 2015 House Chamber Christmas Tree. The ornaments now hang proudly on this native Texas tree celebrating the many facets of our nation’s second largest state, home to over 26 million people.

The photo albums displayed here provide the opportunity for a closer look at these handcrafted treasures. Ornaments received are featured in the album numerically by district number. To look for your hometown’s ornament, please reference the House district maps.

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The Texas House of Representatives is proud to display trees that were provided by the Texas Christmas Tree Growers Association in conjunction with the organization’s president, Kenneth Radde, including this 26-foot Virginia Pine, compliments of Elves Farm in Denison. Additional trees, three 7-foot Virginia Pines and two 10-foot Fraser Firs, compliments of Evergreen Farms in Elgin, are located throughout the Capitol Building.
This ornament is adorned with four illustrations, each representing a county from District 1. The diversity of the district is displayed with the Eiffel Tower (Paris, Lamar County), the Gateway to Texas (Clarksville, Red River County), the Don Meredith Exhibition at the Fire Station Museum (Mt. Vernon, Franklin County), and the Red River Army Depot (Texarkana, Bowie County).

Artist: Katie Williams
Rivercrest High School
Representative Dan Flynn

District 2

The artist for this ornament chose a Nativity scene to represent the strong Christian faith of the citizens of District 2. The North Star, the barn where Jesus was born, the hand of God, and a brightly decorated Christmas tree complete the scene.

Artists: Sylvia Feijen & Kayla Wooten, Students
Saltillo ISD Art Class
Representative Cecil Bell, Jr.
District 3

Titled “Unity,” this ornament features a male and female cardinal nested around a magnolia flower to symbolize the importance of faith, hope and love within the community of Magnolia, Texas.

Artist: Joseph F. Davenport
This ornament’s artist, Rachel, faced a life-threatening illness after her Uncle Stuart was sworn into the Texas House of Representatives. Rachel was motivated by Texas hospitality, which is displayed on the ornament with the phrase “Ho Ho Ho Y’all.” Her love for crafts and the pride she felt creating this ornament for District 4 and for her uncle is evident.

Artist: Rachel Risko
Grace Community School students chose a rose theme as a symbol of their District’s beauty. Nicknamed “The Rose Capital of America,” Tyler’s famed industry was the inspiration behind these young artists’ creation.

Artists: Quaid Patrick & Ella Denson, 5th Graders
Belle Thomas, Teacher
Grace Community School
Representative David Simpson
District 7

Celebrating the thriving East Texas performing arts community, the District 7 ornament incorporates a variety of artistic elements including a grand piano, a pair of ballet shoes, a microphone, and theater masks. The silver circles symbolize spotlights, and the silver stars represent every performer’s dream.

Important performance venues, companies and activities around the district include Theatre Longview, ArtsView Children’s Theatre, the Longview Symphony, the S.E. Belcher Jr. Chapel and Performance Center at LeTourneau University, the Texas Shakespeare Festival, the Van Cliburn Auditorium at Kilgore College, and the Gladewater Opry. East Texans love to share their talent and they deeply appreciate a good show.

Artist: Jessica Growden
The ornament for District 8 incorporates many aspects of the community’s heritage, culture, and beliefs. A train speaks to the district’s shipping industry, while a cowboy and his guitar represent the town’s rich musical history. An oil derrick honors the fact that District 8 was the home of the first major oil find in Texas, while tall grass, sunflowers, and a big Texas sky full of stars celebrate the area’s natural beauty. A Longhorn shows the importance of ranching, a blue ribbon marks the torrential flooding that devastated the district this year, and a red and blue ribbon uses the colors of the state flag.

*Artist: Jennifer Nutt*
This ornament celebrates the history of District 9 and Marshall as the birthplace of “boogie woogie” style music, by featuring an abstract musician playing a “fantasy” piano on Marshall’s courthouse square.

*Artist: Jenny Lankford*
Art students at Waxahachie High School centered their ornament around the historic Ellis County Courthouse. The ornament shows the courthouse covered with snow—a dream-like Christmas for the children of District 10.

Artists: Heather Stuckey & Mackenzie Welch, Students (Sean Cagle, Teacher)
Waxahachie High School
Waxahachie ISD Art Department
The artist chose to depict the Piney Woods located in East Texas.

*Artist: Luke Clardy*
The white-tailed deer, an important source of revenue during hunting season, is featured on this ornament to celebrate its importance to District 12.

Artist: Charles Ellison, Robertson County Judge
Brazos Valley Art League
This ornament is appropriately named Bird’s Eye View, as it shows the Texas mockingbird flying over beautiful District 13.

Artist: Kathleen Beebe Durst
Arts for Rural Texas
Hand-painted by Texas A&M Senior Communications Specialist Amy Jenkins, this ornament celebrates the inaugural season of the new Kyle Field – A&M’s iconic football stadium. Chancellor John Sharp selected his favorite photo from the grand opening celebration on September 11, 2015, and Amy recreated it for this one-of-a-kind ornament.

Happy Holidays to all from the Texas A&M University System.

Artist: Amy Jenkins
Texas A&M University System
The Great Egret and the Red-bellied Woodpecker are both native to District 12. Residents take great pride in the maintenance of a healthy ecosystem for these birds and other wildlife.

*Artist: Vickie McMillan*
Hunting plays a large role in the culture of District 16, especially since hunting season falls during the winter holidays. Many hunters enjoy not only the hunting aspect, but also the anticipation and preparation leading up to opening day.

Artist: Margaret Adams Madeley
This ornament shows the pine trees bordering both sides of the Colorado River and the Old Iron Bridge in beautiful Bastrop, Texas.

Artist: Adriana Razo, 11th Grader
Cedar Creek High School
This ornament honors the retirement of a longtime Member of the Texas House by depicting the six terms (79th-84th Legislative Sessions) that Representative John Otto served the people of District 18. The artist marks the approximate area of this district with a star on a black silhouette of Texas.

Artist: Brandee Gates Otto
Daughter-in-law of Representative John Otto
Located in the center of District 20, Georgetown is home to the state’s first university, Southwestern University. Southwestern can be found on many “best of” lists including ranking within the top 100 by U.S. News & World Report and Forbes.

Artists: Braden & Ava Bules
Grandchildren of Representative Marsha Farney
This ornament depicts a coastal landscape typical of Southeast Texas. The imagery represents District 21’s long history in the oil industry.

Artist: Savannah Shirley, Student  
(Griseida Bryan, Teacher)  
Port Neches-Groves High School
This ornament features an interactive, beach-themed scavenger hunt.

Artists: Lindsay Griffin, Isabelle Sanchez & Nina Trevino
Odyssey Academy, Galveston
The lovely tree on this ornament was created with the fingerprints of second- and third-graders from C.W. Cline Elementary School. The tree signifies the strong family roots and the supportive community that are valued by the people of District 24.

Artists: Olivia Esbeck, Kamdyn Mahler, Ishan Pendyala, James Pine, Addison Rosenthal, 2nd Grade Students
Justin Holcomb, Seth Kabiri, Beckett Kim, Elizabeth McHazlett, Abby Miller, Alexandra Ploeger, 3rd Grade Students
Mrs. Barb Kessler, Teacher
C.W. Cline Elementary
Some of the most endearing characteristics of District 56 include its residents’ love of God, Texas and America. On this ornament, these qualities are represented by a nativity scene, the state seal, and a blue ribbon. This pale blue is the color of Sweeny ISD, where the artist’s children attend school.

*Artist: Cuauhtemoc Murphy
Brazosport Art League*
Representative Rick Miller
District 26

Designed to highlight the past, present, and future of Sugar Land, this ornament shows the sugar mill that once represented the district, as well as the modern town center.

Artists: Art 2 Students
Mrs. Paulette Reid-Gordon, Teacher
Logos Preparatory Academy
The kaleidoscope style of this ornament represents the changing experiences and the diversity of District 28.

Artist: Becca House
Casa Verde Creations & ARTreach
This ornament features a collection of characters representing the diversity within Alvin ISD.

*Artist: Andrea Albero*

*Manvel High School*
Representative Geanie Morrison
District 30

Artist: Jillian Hrbacek
This hand-painted ornament depicts the palm tree-lined highway leading to the subtropical world of Willacy County. The fisherman is symbolic of the world-class fishing at Port Mansfield.

*Artist: Cissie Watson*

*Willacy County Art League*
The Rio Grande Valley is a multicultural region where the merging of Mexican and American traditions is common. One such example is the popular and dynamic mariachi music. District 35 is home to two award-winning and state championship teams, Mariachi Los Coyotes from La Joya High School, and Mariachi Juvenil Azteca from Edcouch-Elsa High School. To honor these talented students, this year’s ornament is decorated to look like a mariachi musician, in traditional Mexican charro suit, complete with a variety of instruments.

Artist: Alejandra Karina Gonzalez Ruiz
Since 1921, the city of Mission, found in District 36, has been known as the “Home of the Ruby Red Grapefruit.” Mission also celebrates its agricultural roots with the annual Texas Citrus Fiesta Parade, first held in 1932.

Artist: Vanessa Veliz
This ornament is a representation of the school’s mascot, “Ace” the owl. Each student’s fingerprint was used for the feathers that make up Ace’s wings.

Artists: Jimmena Gonzalez, Amy Jo Martinez & Ms. Martinez’s 4th grade class
Sharp Elementary School, Brownsville
The ornament for District 40 celebrates two significant local institutions: the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and The Edinburg Scenic Wetlands & World Birding Center. The artist’s inclusion of citrus and cotton plants represent the importance of local agriculture to the region.

*Artist: Ramiro Pena*
The ornament presents a printed image of the Museum of South Texas History and the museum’s logo. Red, white, and blue stars adorn the top of the ornament, along with loose stars inside.

Artist: Berry Fritz
This ornament celebrates the mascot of Orange Grove High School, the Bulldog, and the local community. More depictions of the town’s pride are included on the reverse.

Artists: Alicia Resendez, Kimberly Garza, and Samantha Caudillo, Students (Melissa Slaughter, Teacher)
Orange Grove High School Family and Consumer Science Class
Orange Grove ISD
This ornament features images related to the cities and counties of District 45. Lavender for Blanco County; President LBJ’s homestead for Johnson City; “Wedding Capital of Texas” for Dripping Springs; #WimberleyStrong for Wimberley; Texas State University for San Marcos; and last, but not least, the famous Weiner Dog Races for Buda and Kyle.

*Artist: Arturo Garcia, Jr.*

*Texas State University*
This year, District 47 received an abundance of rain, which resulted in the lakes of the Colorado River filling rapidly and a plethora of wildflowers.

*Artist: Judy Wisdom*
Representative Donna Howard
District 48

This ornament depicts a Longhorn pulling Santa’s sled in front of the Austin skyline, as seen from the western part of the city where District 48 is located.

Artist: Haley Celusniak, Student
(Roselle Casey, Teacher)
Westlake High School
As everyone knows, Austin is the Live Music Capital of the world and thus the musical heart of Texas. This ornament’s design is a visual representation of a musical composition inspired by the song titled “Rain” played by the Texas band Zro. The number 49, written in gold numerals, refers to Rep. Naishtat. A violet ribbon with delicate nuances of color appears to dive in and out of the orb in rhythmic intervals.

Artist: Jeffrey Shawn Moore, Jr.
Austin Community College
The natural beauty of this urban district is symbolized by a variety of common birds found on trails and in backyards of Central Texas and the Austin area.

Artists: Diane, Vincent, Emma, Hunter, Brooklyn, Sofia, Rachel, Valeria & Allie, Students
Jennifer Fleischman, Teacher
Fannie Mae Caldwell Elementary School Art Club
This ornament pays tribute to Austin’s annual “Trail of Lights” at Zilker Park. The artist was inspired by this holiday tradition and by the creativity that goes into it each year.

Artist: Bethany Kornacki
Del Valle High School Art Program
This ornament depicts the transformation of the Central Texas landscape from rural area to exciting, booming cityscape. District 52 sees itself as a visionary community that is leading Texas into a more global market economy.

*Artist: Michael Hammons  
Art Center of Williamson County*
Enjoy nature's many seasonal decorations by spending holidays on the ranch. The ornament’s many depictions of farm-life include a ranch entrance, live oak tree, prickly pear cactus, Angora goat, Suffolk sheep, and a windmill.

*Artists: Tammy T. Fisher, Madalyn Fisher & Delyse Jaeger*
The ornament has a wreath of bluebonnets around the top trim, with a ring of armadillos and longhorns underneath. Wrapped around the center is a repetition of a star and the outline of Texas. The state flag, a cowboy hat, boots, and rope complete the scene.

Artist: Kylei Giles
Harker Heights High School
Killeen ISD
The city of Belton proudly celebrates “Christmas on the Chisholm Trail” each year with festivities for the community to enjoy. 1870’s Belton was one of many resting stops along the storied pathway. This ornament shows a silhouette of a cowgirl following the longhorn at dusk along the trail.

*Artist: Leila Valchar*

*My Giving Tree Gift Shop & Gallery*
This ornament, entitled “Doris Miller Memorial,”
features a black and white portrait of the Waco-born African-American
World War II hero offset by a blue background.

Artist: Brian Broadway
Creative Waco
The artist, Representative Burns’ daughter, created the District 58 ornament by swirling red and green paint on the inside.

Artist: Emma Burns
This ornament celebrates the city of Brady, the geographical “Heart of Texas,” and its commerce, fine game hunting, beautiful ranches and love of community.

Artists: Kamry Ledezma & Calista Calderon, Students
(Georgan Cordell, Teacher)
High School Art 1, Brady High School
Brady ISD
The 7-year-old granddaughter of Representative Jim Keffer created this ornament. She chose to focus on the true meaning of Christmas by painting baby Jesus in the manger.

Artist: Brooklyn Keffer, age 7
This ornament honors two beloved elements of District 61: the historic Parker County Courthouse and the annual Peach Festival. A blue snowflake adds a festive air.

*Artist: Judith Pope*
This ornament, decorated in a modern western style, features a hand-beaded leather and copper conch and hand-lettering that declares, “Merry Christmas, Y’all!”

Artist: Christian Cravens
Creative Arts Center, Bonham
Representative Tan Parker
District 63
The front of this ornament features a drawing of the Denton County Courthouse. Inside, there’s “snow” and red tinsel.

Artists: Beatrice and Mariah Crownover
Granddaughters of Representative Myra Crownover
This ornament has been turned into a “snow globe” which sits atop a “poinsettia,” made of ribbon. “Snow globe” lights up.

Artist: Nadia Rodriguez, 12th Grader
(Marty Kruk, Teacher)
Flower Mound High School
District 66 is home to a number of Fortune 1000 companies and large employers. This year’s ornament highlights these economic generators for their role in job creation and growth in our community. The silver and sparkles represent God’s many blessings and the festive time of year celebrating the birth of Christ.

Artist: Avery Boone, age 11
This ornament was created by artists at My Possibilities, a non-profit organization that serves adults with disabilities (Autism, Down syndrome, Asperger’s syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, head injuries, etc.). This organization is the first full-day, full-year continuing education program in Collin County for disabled Texans who have “aged out” of secondary education. The facility is located in a 23,000 square foot center in Plano, Texas.

Artists: Team of Artists
My Possibilities, Plano
This ornament reflects scenes and symbols of the rural communities that make up District 68. An iconic pickup, complete with a Texas flag on its tailgate, is hauling a future Christmas tree. The ornament also pays homage to the boot and leather manufacturing industries, the rapidly growing grape and winery industry, and the oil and gas industry.

Artist: Larry G. Lemons
Representative James Frank
District 69

The mottled blue color inside the ornament, created by melted wax, represents the extensive rain District 69 received in 2015. The silver star on the bottom stands for the Lone Star of Texas.

Artist: Melissa Okeke
District 70’s artist, Corinna Gadley, was inspired by the spirit of Christmas. She decorated the ornament with snow, pine cones, green holly, red berries, and a gold cross. While painting this ornament, she thought of Isaiah 9:6: “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Artist: Corinna Gadley

Painting with a Twist, McKinney
The red ribbons on this ornament list the names of all the counties in District 72. The dove symbolizes peace, faith, and optimism, while the vibrant blue skies celebrate this district’s resources: farming and ranching, education, the military, medical facilities, oil and gas, and the arts.

*Artist: Susan Williams*
The ornament from District 73 features three historic limestone courthouses. Boerne in Kendall County is home to the second oldest courthouse in Texas, built in 1870. Now a public library, the Gillespie County courthouse in Fredericksburg was completed in 1882. Comal County’s second courthouse, constructed in 1898, is located in New Braunfels.

*Artist: Jane Felts Mauldin*
This ornament displays the banks of the Rio Grande River, an integral element of District 74. The Rio Grande creates a natural border between Texas and the Mexican states of Chihuahua, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, and Tamaulipas. The painting depicts a view of the river from the Nevarez home in Eagle Pass.

Artist: Gaby Valdés
Still active places of worship and the state’s oldest mission and presidio chapel, Socorro Mission and San Elizario Chapel are both part of the Mission Trail. In 1682, Socorro Mission was established to serve displaced Piro Indians who fled during the Pueblo Revolt. Built in 1790, the San Elizario presidio chapel, served soldiers and their families, and protected travelers. The present chapel was rebuilt after a flood in 1829. The Mission Trail is part of the El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro (Royal Road of the Interior) a trade trail that extended from Mexico City to Santa Fe, NM.

*Artist: Bert Saldana*
Located within the heart of El Paso, District 76 is home to Bel Air High School, a vital part of the city. The artist used a baseball theme to show his passion for the sport as well as for the school.

Artist: Brandon McKinney, Student
Bel Air High School
Representative Marisa Márquez
District 77

Artist: Nicole Sanchez, Student
La Fe Preparatory School
Representing the four communities known as the Quad City area: Aguilares, Bruni, Mirando City, and Oilton, also compose the boundaries of Webb Consolidated ISD (WCISD). The area is a haven for hunters and, in the past, oil and gas production. Presently, large landowners have put their land to use by leasing it to Wind Energy Farms. Partnering with the Wind Energy Farms, WCISD provides facilities and instructors to train students who wish to pursue careers in the wind farm industry.

*Artist: Miriam Perez*
Hand-painted by a student in Odessa, this ornament was inspired by the spirit of Christmas as referenced by the traditional Christmas bells. What serene winter scene would be complete without the silhouette of Santa in his sleigh pulled by reindeer?

Artist: Kajal Ahir
Permian High School
Ector County ISD
Set in the evening amid the landscape of Lubbock County’s Caprock Escarpment, this hand-painted ornament features a prairie dog about to munch on a candy cane.

*Artist: James W. Johnson*
The holiday ornament representing District 85 was created in memory of the Congressional Medal of Honor recipients who once resided in the district. The heroes depicted on the ornament are Army Master Sergeant Mike C. Pena, Naval Reserve Seaman First Class Johnnie David Hutchins, and Army Master Sergeant Roy Benavidez. Their sacrifices, leadership, and dedication to the United States are very much appreciated by the residents of District 85.

Artist: Mary Koczanski
Wharton Junior College
This ornament design signifies both the past and present of District 87. Vibrant colors pay homage to the celebrated artist Georgia O’Keefe, who painted the region’s famous sunsets and natural beauty while she taught in Potter County before becoming a famous artist. Charms symbolize the past and the Native American history of the area, while a cross represents the faith that has helped the community weather hard times.

Artist: Jo Lyn Brown, Art Teacher
Tascosa High School
This ornament, from Santa to District 88, celebrates children and the importance of education to the future of Texas. Inside there are 17 handcrafted stockings and candy canes, one for each county within the District.

Artist: Natalie Timmons
Canadian ISD Art Department
Emblazoned with the lyrics, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” this ornament symbolizes the artist’s strong faith. Majestic angel wings, golden halo and trumpet adorn the ornament, giving glory to the newborn Christ and proclaiming peace on earth.

Artist: Taylen Day
Bethesda Christian School
The strength and spirit of District 92 is best represented through the image of family. In keeping, this ornament features a stained glass depiction of the Holy Family as a reminder to treasure our families during the holidays.

*Artists: Anne & Rachel Gebhart*
The ornament for District 93 displays Santa delivering gifts to the lucky children of the district. A Texas longhorn adorned with Christmas lights and colored to match the state flag adds to the ornament’s joyful nature. Congratulations to Sabrina Lakhaysy, this year’s ornament contest winner for District 93!

Artist: Sabrina Lakhaysy, Student
Fossil Ridge High School
The Special Needs Classroom taught by Ms. Devin Bohannon lovingly crafted this ornament consisting of puzzle pieces and multicolored ribbons representing different disabilities and differences found across our district and others. “We have so many different cultures and disabilities, yet in our District, we work to make all the differences work and the pieces fit. Colleges and schools in the district also work to teach the students to embrace our diversities.”

Artists: Roan Vallejo, Mason Stout, Anthony Soria, Noah Ruelas & Caleb Donnelly, Students
Ms. Devin “Ms. Bo” Bohannon, Teacher
W.P. McLean Middle School
Fort Worth ISD
This ornament depicts ‘Big Tex,’ full of Christmas spirit, lassoing gifts while keeping his eye on a Fletcher’s corn dog.

Artist: Fatima Tapia, age 11
Morgan Ream, Teacher
W.E. Greiner Exploratory Arts Academy
Dallas ISD
This ornament depicts the joys of education and the magic of the holiday season, which draws people together to celebrate life's blessings and one another.

Artist: Enrique Nevarez
Tarrant County College-Southeast Campus
This ornament features bluebonnets, the official State flower, and the Dallas skyline at night. The artist included a full moon as a reminder of the lunar events of 2015: total lunar eclipse and supermoon.

Artist: Madison Hotchko
Richardson High School Visual Arts Magnet
Representative Rafael Anchia
District 103
This ornament is dedicated to the heroes in the Grand Prairie community. It depicts various landmarks from the area, including the local police station and firehouse.

Artist: Rosa Burciaga, Student
Lena Rodriguez & John Lucius, Teachers
Grand Prairie Fine Arts Academy
This ornament celebrates the academic and artistic achievements and successes of past, present and future students of District 105.

“Keep Rockin’ Education and the Fine Arts in District 105!”

Artists: Kevin Pennebaker & Monica Raymond, Teachers
Colin Powell Elementary
Grand Prairie ISD
This ornament depicts many significant local landmarks such as Town East Mall, Mesquite Arena, and the Mesquite Tower, completed by a Texas flag in the background.

*Artist: Annabel Esquivel*
The ornament for District 108 highlights the beautiful skyline of downtown Dallas, our iconic Pegasus, and a tie symbolizing business. The artists included their favorite Texas symbols: a cowboy hat, the lone star, bluebonnets, and a monarch butterfly.

*Artists: Kate Boyer, Rylie Mae Dittrich & Grace O’Keefe, 8th Graders (Jeane Clayton, Teacher)*
*Highland Park Middle School*
Titled “Winter Wonderland,” this ornament features 3D snowflakes of white and silver. The inside is decorated with silver ‘branches,’ reminiscent of a silver foil Christmas tree, and white ‘snow.’ The artist was inspired by the rare, but not unheard of, snowfall in North Texas.

*Artist: Stephani Clark*
Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy is located in District 110 and is a magnet school for males in grades 6-12. This ornament depicts the school motto, “Believe. Achieve. Succeed.” Students feel that this motto represents both their school and District 110 as a whole.

*Artists: Team of Students*

*Barack Obama Male Leadership Academy*
Third graders imagine Richardson in lovely new fallen snow. They know it doesn't happen often but are excited when it does.

Artist: Olivia Guernsey, 3rd Grader
Jess Harben Elementary
Fishermen flock to Lake Ray Hubbard in District 113 because of the lake’s many bass, catfish, and crappie species. So, too, do blue herons, a majestic bird celebrated on this ornament.

Artist: Paula Lawson, Teacher
Garland High School
Garland ISD
This ornament symbolizes how residents of District 114, despite their differences, come together for the greater good of the community. The birds, representing people, were chosen for their variation in size and color. Their arrangement, in a tight circle, denotes the community coming together.

The snow and snowflakes stand for all change, both good and bad.

Artists: Brenda Villegas, Jennifer Nevarez, Audrey Washington, Lorenzo Nevarez, Miles Carey, Teresa Chavez, Melanie Rivera, Ashley Martinez & Alexis Benitz

(Desiree Dumas, Teacher)

E.D. Walker Middle School Art Club
Representative Matt Rinaldi
District 115

Artist: Maria Fernanda Ramirez
Newman Smith High School
Students in Ms. Castillo’s class helped to create this representation of Santa’s belly. Inside the ornament, the curled red strips of paper hold holiday wishes for the world, such as, “My Christmas wish is… for everyone to be happy; for everyone to have a friend....”

Artists: Form 1 Students
Sandi Castillo, Teacher
Saint Mary’s Hall, San Antonio
This ornament depicts Christmas at the Alamo, complete with Santa and Longhorns.

*Artist: Chloe Zepeda*
In 1720, Mission San José y San Miguel de Aguayo, or the “Queen of the Missions,” was founded in San Antonio. This magical mission continues to fill visitors with passion as they explore its deep-rooted history.

*Artist: Marisol Cortez*

*Mission San Jose Neighborhood Association*
This ornament was designed by Samantha “Sam” Ostos, who uses art to help kids at the San Antonio Children’s Shelter heal. The lamb symbolizes the shelter’s ability to restore innocence and strengthen families, while the multicolored ribbon signifies the wide range of services offered by the shelter. Finally, the Alamo celebrates the pride of San Antonio.

Artist: Samantha Ostos
San Antonio Children’s Shelter
The Children’s Bereavement Center in District 121 is a place where children can come to heal—a remarkable mission that is celebrated by this ornament. The flowers represent the young people who need the center, while the butterflies symbolize us all working as one to make a difference for each child.

Artist: Enedina Casarez Vasquez
Children’s Bereavement Center of South Texas
This ornament celebrates San Antonio and highlights the city’s rich cultural heritage and love of colorful celebrations.

Artist: Colin Lantz
Ronald Reagan High School
Celebrating the Pledge of Allegiance, San Antonio students reflect on their appreciation for the freedoms enjoyed as a result of the selfless bravery of the men and women in the Armed Forces. San Antonio is often referred to as Military City, USA.

*Artist: Samantha Schwartz, Student*  
*Earl Warren High School Art Department*
This ornament depicts the San Antonio skyline in the evening and the popular tourist boats, known as barges, which float along the San Antonio River. The artist chose the San Antonio skyline because that is the most iconic view to a Westside resident.

Artist: Ruby Rios
Edgewood Fine Arts Academy
District 126 honors the outstanding law enforcement officers of its school districts and Harris County who work together every day to serve and protect the community. This ornament, created by three Klein High School seniors, says “Thank You” to the Harris County Sheriffs, Harris County Precinct Four Constables and Klein ISD Police Department, whose badges are displayed on the ornament. Residents are united in supporting all law enforcement officers in memory of Deputy Darren Goforth who was killed in the line of duty in August 2015.

Artists: Emma Gebring, Sarah Horton & Grace Mikel, Students
(Dee Burgess, Art Teacher)
Klein High School
Decorated with Christmas cheer, this ornament declares, “Noel” and “Merry Christmas,” phrases often heard by citizens of District 127 during the holidays.

*Artists: The Otis Family*
This ornament features the insignia & colors of the La Porte Bulldogs to show District pride.

**Artists:** Fallon Lichnerowicz, Laney Thornton & Alycia Allen, Students  
Matt Burke, Teacher  
La Porte High School  
La Porte ISD
St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church and School is located in the Clear Lake area of Houston. The San Damiano cross reminds the school’s staff and students of the selflessness of St. Clare and St. Francis, who chose to live a life of poverty in order to “Love God, Serve God..... Because everything is in that.”

Artist: Shawna Glad, Art Teacher
St. Clare of Assisi Catholic Church & School
This ornament is entitled, “Texas: Where Dreams Come True.”

Artist: Sharon Slover
District Director for Representative Allen Fletcher
This ornament symbolizes the unifying objectives of the District’s many churches and denominations: promoting faith, helping others and bringing families closer together.

Artist: Shawn K. Carson
Carson’s Art School
Representative Jim Murphy
District 133

The rustic style of this ornament represents the country roots that run deep throughout Texas. The heart shows where District 133 is located.

Artist: Janet Hagedorn
Girl Scouts
This ornament represents the city and schools of Jersey Village.

*Artist: Kim Vinson, 8th Grader*
*Cook Middle School*
*Cy Fair ISD*
This ornament depicts the natural vegetation and open vistas enjoyed by the communities on the outskirts of the Texas Hill Country.

Artist: Lia Politi, Teacher
Vista Ridge High School Fine Arts Department
This ornament features a rendition of Van Gogh’s “Starry Night.” Inside, paper ‘wishing’ stars, in a variety of purples, represent the hope needed to guide us through life.

Artist: Elinette Iglesias
This ornament celebrates the Texas State Capitol, which at 308 feet is the sixth-tallest capitol in the United States and one of several taller than the United States Capitol. The artist wanted to capture the building’s magnificence and celebrate the tried-and-true saying that everything truly is bigger in Texas.

Artist: Jessie Barrow, Student
(Bohye Na, Teacher)
Langham Creek High School
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
District 141’s ornament is delicate and contemporary. Colorful wax, a rich red bow, bulbs, burlap, and a butterfly all signify the community’s strong faith, unwavering defense of freedom, and staunch belief in fairness.

Artist: Tiffany Jack
Kipani Unlimited
The Pasadena High School Eagles lost a devoted staff member, Mrs. Carol Brasfield, when she passed away on April 24, 2015. Mrs. Brasfield worked in the OMEGA Program, serving high school students with intellectual disabilities and/or autism who require curriculum focusing on functional academics, communication, social skills, vocational training, and/or independent living skills training as determined by their postsecondary goals. This ornament is in memory of their beloved Eagle, Mrs. Brasfield.

Artists: Rachel Obar, Student
(Teresa Chase, Teacher)
Pasadena High School - OMEGA Program
With this ornament, the artist reflected on the different landscapes of District 146, admiring the mix of urban and rural areas. This diversity also gives the area its mix of both traditional and modern residents.

Artist: Abdullah Kurdi
Sharpstown High School
Titled “Energy,” this ornament represents the amazing strength and vitality that Houston’s District 148 has to offer. Energy is seen throughout the district through its people, commerce, art, culture, and educational opportunities.

Artist: Nicola Parente
Nicola Parente Fine Art