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Rise School of Dallas Students Show Their Artistic Side During Reliant Energy Contest
Toddlers Win Annual Holiday Art Competition

HOUSTON – Toddlers attending the Rise School of Dallas used their tiny hand and footprints to shape holiday trees, reindeer and snow for the winning entry in Reliant Energy’s annual holiday art contest. The event is held in partnership with the Gaylord Texan Hotel and Convention Center and its annual ICE! sculpture exhibit.

The Rise School is a nationally recognized preschool specializing in the development and education of young children from ages 12 months to six years with Down syndrome and other special needs. Each of the five classes at the Rise School created a piece of holiday art for Reliant’s contest in November.

“This amazing artwork truly captures the spirit of the holiday season,” said Tom Gros, Senior Vice President, Reliant Energy. “Having the Rise School and these wonderful young artists here was a holiday treat for everyone. Working with schools and community groups - during the holidays and all year round - is part of our commitment to support the communities where our customers and employees live and work.”

A panel of eight Dallas TV and radio personalities evaluated the holiday-themed artwork on Dec. 8 at the Gaylord Texan, where the students’ artwork will remain on display through Jan. 3. The artwork was judged based on creativity, complexity and holiday spirit.

The winning artists’ teacher, Kari Zerbe, and her assistants Raquel Ornelas and Megan Evans received a \$500 gift card from Reliant for classroom supplies and activities.

“Our students had a great time creating their holiday artwork and participating in the art contest,” said Peggy Dyer, director, Rise School of Dallas. “Reliant’s art contest really worked well for our students, encouraging teamwork and providing them a creative outlet.”

Immediately following the judging ceremony, more than 100 students, parents and staff from the Rise School experienced the ICE! exhibit first-hand with an exclusive tour of the icy display, courtesy of Reliant Energy and the Gaylord Texan. This year, ICE! tells the story of The Grinch

by recreating scenes from the book in intricately carved, larger-than-life, interactive ice sculptures. Some of the frosty sculptures weigh in at more than two tons each.

About Reliant Energy:

Reliant Energy provides electricity and energy services to more than 1.6 million retail customers—including homes, small and large businesses, manufacturing facilities, government entities and institutions across Texas. As part of NRG Energy (NYSE: NRG), Reliant Energy is backed by one of the nation's largest power producers. NRG owns and operates more than 24,000 megawatts of generation capacity, including more than 11,000 megawatts of capacity in Texas. For more information about Reliant Energy products and services, visit www.reliant.com. For more information about NRG, visit www.nrgenergy.com.

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