The beauty of the earth is never clearer than when seen from the air. Every day, thousands of people flying in airliners and general aviation aircraft look at the earth with a new perspective from above. Another group of boys, girls, men and women involved in air sports are fortunate to have a special view of the grandeur below them as they soar in gliders or float through the air in balloons. Others feel the rush of air as they parachute down to a beautiful field or cross the sky in an ultralight or helicopter.

From above, the fullness of nature is seen in ways unknowable from the ground. Helicopters give tours of the inaccessible rivers and canyons as balloons float across home towns, each giving new insight into how land, water, animals, and people share their environments. From the air, one is able to take pictures and film land that would otherwise never be seen. Aircraft do this without the need for roads. An airport or open field will do for the intrepid aviator.

While the air sport participants enjoy this freedom, they also must be very good neighbors to all the people and animals and the environment. This is especially important as they take-off and land. Air sports enthusiasts are happy to do this because the beauty of the earth is one of the reasons they love flying so much.

With that in mind scroll down to enjoy this year’s winning art work selected from young artists all around the U.S.
Layla Lee, California
Category III (Senior): 14 to 17 years old
U.S. Placement: 1st
Sky Waters, Minnesota
Category III (Senior): 14 to 17 years old
U.S. Placement: 2nd
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Derek Gonzales, New Mexico
Category III (Senior): 14 to 17 years old
U.S. Placement: 3rd
Rebecca Koerner, Minnesota
Category II (Intermediate): 10 to 13 years old
U.S. Placement: 1st
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Annette Kim, California
Category II (Intermediate): 10 to 13 years old
U.S. Placement: 2\textsuperscript{nd}
International Placement: 2\textsuperscript{nd}
Jidapa Janpathompong, Massachusetts
Category II (Intermediate): 10 to 13 years old
U.S. Placement: 3rd
Max Lin, Pennsylvania
Category I (Junior): 6 to 9 years old
U.S. Placement: 2nd
Andrew Han, California
Category I (Junior): 6 to 9 years old
U.S. Placement: 3rd
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