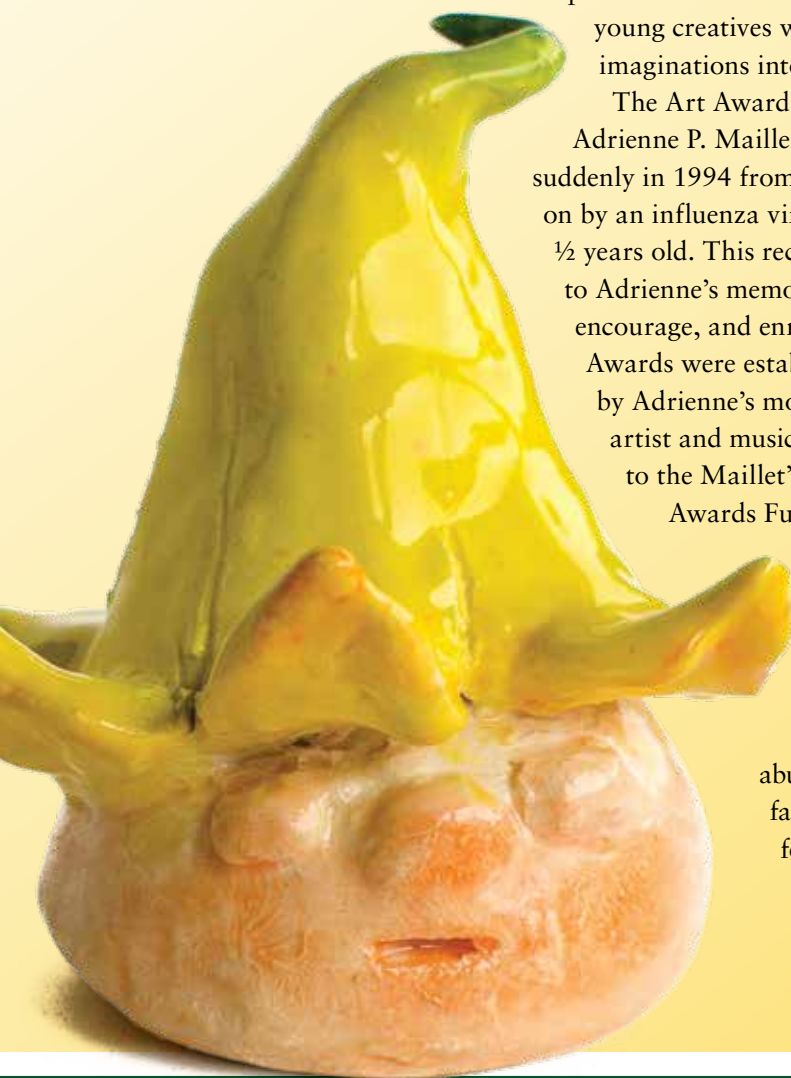


## *Everyone's a Winner at 27th Annual "Adrienne's Garden" Art Awards*

This year's 27th annual "Adrienne's Garden" Art Awards was once again a dazzling celebration of visual and performance art featuring the very best work of Tunkhannock Area School District K through 7 student artists and a musical quartet to entertain. Forty-three participants and winners were showered with ribbons, a beautiful certificate, a spot for their work in a full-color program, and a package of brand new art supplies. Parents and families participated in People's Choice awards, as did teachers and school employees who cast their ballots for their favorites in the weeks before the May event. It was all together an immersion experience of encouragement and recognition for the young creatives who poured their hearts and imaginations into their work.

The Art Awards are a memorial honoring Adrienne P. Maillet, an aspiring artist who died suddenly in 1994 from ventricular arrhythmia brought on by an influenza virus infection. She was just 12 ½ years old. This recurring event is a lasting tribute to Adrienne's memory and is intended to enhance, encourage, and enrich the lives of participants. The Awards were established by the Maillet family led by Adrienne's mother Lorraine Maillet, herself an artist and musician. They are funded by donations to the Maillet's "Adrienne's Garden" Art Awards Fund at the Community Foundation.

Everyone who loves children and the arts is invited to help by making an easy online tax-deductible contribution. Donors, supporters and organizers are rewarded abundantly when they see the smiling faces of the youngsters stepping forward to receive their prizes.





## State Increases Higher Ed Assistance

We have good news to share from the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) which administers the PATH program. PATH allows foundations such as The Community Foundation of the Endless Mountains to leverage private donations to provide additional need-based educational grants to state residents. In some cases, private scholarships have the potential to be matched by PHEAA funds on a dollar-for-dollar basis—essentially doubling the private scholarship amount for state residents who will be attending state colleges. For the 2024-2025 school season, the state legislators have increased the allocation in matching funds from \$52,245 to \$77,045—a 47.5 percent boost! Our thanks to legislators for responding to concerns about affordable education for the next generation of Pennsylvania citizens.

