



**For immediate release**  
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### **Louisiana Student to Receive International Award**

Arlington, Va., November XX, 2018 – **La’Juane Nash**, of Jonesboro, La., will receive a **2019 Yes I Can Award from the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)**.

When a social worker helped La’Juane discover his love and talent for art, it became a turning point in his life. Before that, his learning challenges resulted in behavior problems that had a negative effect on his relationship with his teachers and peers. Then in the ninth grade, he was placed in the Talented Art program where he has excelled and overcome past behavioral issues.

La’Juane is an exceptional young artist. He begins each project with enthusiasm and always chooses a project that will challenge his abilities. La’Juane has found the path that gives him the motivation to try harder. Mr. Beck, La’Juane’s principal said, “La’Juane is an excellent example of a young person overcoming some academic barriers and doing the necessary things to become a solid student representing his school and community. La’Juane does not make excuses for his limitations but works exceptionally hard to overcome anything that takes away from the goals of academic excellence.”

La’Jaune is now an 11th-grader and works extremely hard to succeed in his regular subjects, but is able to successfully juggle his classwork, artwork, sports teams, and home commitments.

CEC is proud to honor La’Juane with this award in the Arts category. La’Juane will receive his award at the Yes I Can Award Ceremony on February 1, 2019, at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, Ind., as part of the CEC 2019 Convention & Expo. The Yes I Can program recognizes the accomplishments of 12 students with exceptionalities in six categories: academics, arts, school and community activities, self-advocacy, technology, and transition.

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) is the professional association of educators dedicated to advancing the educational success of children and youth with exceptionalities that accomplishes its mission through advocacy, standards, and professional development. Learn more about CEC at [www.cec.sped.org](http://www.cec.sped.org).

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