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Arts4All Florida  
University of South Florida  
[www.arts4allflorida.org](http://www.arts4allflorida.org)

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**Suwannee County Student Named  
Arts4All Florida October 2019 Student of the Month**

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Arts4All Florida is pleased to announce 15-year-old Evan Procko as one of their October 2019 Students of the Month. Evan, who attends Branford High School in Branford, Florida was nominated by Art Teacher, Vaster Fryar for Evan's keen eye and deep love for art. "[Evan] hears an assignment and takes it ten times further than his classmates. He has such limited use of his hands now and yet, he pushes to create."

For years, Evan has exhibited a significant understanding of the art making process in many mediums, although painting has withstood the test of time. His artwork has earned him numerous ribbons at local art shows and, in the spring of this year he won Best of Show at his high school art show. Currently his Suwannee River oil painting is on display at the Florida State Capitol, an opportunity he won through the school district. With true entrepreneurial spirit, Evan set up an Etsy account to sell his work. He shares with Ms. Fryar that he understands he will not have a traditional life and this may be the way he chooses to make a living in the future.

Evan has Duchenne muscular dystrophy, (DMD) and has become limited in some muscle movement. "I have seen him stand and create", Ms. Fryar remarks, "and now I watch as he can no longer stand. He uses both arms to be able to hold and move a paint brush. He never stops and finds a way to continue to create."

Arts4All Florida looks forward to recognizing Evan and presenting him with a personalized trophy at an awards ceremony in the coming weeks. The Arts4All Florida Student of the Month Program is designed to increase public awareness and recognize the impact arts make on students with disabilities statewide. Students who participate in the arts develop creativity, have increased self-confidence, understand teamwork, have increased language and math skills and are generally more engaged. For more information about the Student of the Month program and others, please visit [www.arts4allflorida.org](http://www.arts4allflorida.org).

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