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Winner was just flat out

TIM WILLIAMS

PAINTING a girl pressed to the floor by the weight of a drenched school uniform was Ella Michele's way of illustrating the pressures of Year 12, and it seems many South Australians can identify with her experience.

The former St Ignatius College student has taken out the \$500 inaugural SACE Art Show Community Award.

More than 1600 people cast votes in the public's first chance to judge the state's best Year 12 artworks in the show's 33-year history.

"I felt I couldn't put time and energy and effort into other parts of my life in Year 12," Ella, 18, said.

Paige Mahlburg, 18, was runner-up for her giant sculpture of a hand, made by welding together hundreds of pieces of old cutlery she found at Salvation Army stores. The art show, at Light Square Gallery closes today.

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PEOPLE'S CHOICE: Voted the winner at the SACE art awards, top, was Ella Michele's painting 'The Lacking', and runner-up was Paige Mahlburg for her sculpture "Manufactured Distinction".

Picture: DEAN MARTIN

