

POLYSH Press Release

POLYSH invites Indiana communities to nominate student creatives for statewide sneaker art competition

With a mission to connect and elevate the next generation of creatives, POLYSH is calling on Indiana communities to get involved as it announces its upcoming sneaker art competition series.

This summer, middle and high school students from across the state will compete in a sneaker art showdown at the Indiana State Fair on Saturday, August 22nd.

POLYSH is building more than a competition. It is creating a platform for young artists to show their work, be seen, and be taken seriously. By tapping into communities across Indiana, the organization is expanding opportunities for emerging creatives, while bringing together local leaders, educators, and supporters around something that feels fresh, relevant, and rooted in self-expression.

Through partnerships with local leaders and organizations like The Basement, The City League, Young & Established, and the Indiana State Fair, POLYSH is inviting schools, districts, and community leaders to identify and nominate standout student artists to represent their communities in this year's competition.

"This is bigger than a sneaker competition. It's about giving young people a place to express themselves and feel seen for who they are and what they create," says Courtney Johnson, Executive Director of Young & Established. "When a community shows up for its creatives, it changes how they see themselves and what they believe is possible. That's the kind of impact we're trying to build."

The Indiana State Fair serves as a statewide stage for finalists to showcase their work, connect with new audiences, and celebrate creativity in front of communities from across Indiana. It is just one piece of POLYSH's broader effort to keep creative momentum growing and inspire more young people to explore their passions.

"POLYSH exists to give a platform to young artists, encouraging their creative gifts in a fun, meaningful competition. It gives them the chance to use their ability to represent their school and community," says Austin Taylor, Executive Director of The City League & POLYSH. "This is about creating opportunity, building confidence, and showing students that their creativity has value beyond the classroom."

POLYSH will continue working alongside community leaders to expand its sneaker art competition series and create more opportunities for young artists to be seen, supported, and celebrated. Schools, educators, and community leaders interested in nominating student artists for the competition **can complete this nomination form**, or reach out to polysh@thecityleague.org to learn more.

About POLYSH

POLYSH is an Indiana-based platform dedicated to empowering young creatives and showcasing their artistic talent. Founded in 2025, POLYSH creates opportunities for emerging artists to gain exposure, build connections, and grow within their communities. Learn more: <https://www.thecityleague.org/polysh>