

PRESS RELEASE

Taxidermy Tech Inc
d/b/a Expressions of Wildlife
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Pensacola Taxidermist Scores a Win at Alabama Convention

Sheffield, Alabama June 22-25 2023

Pensacola Taxidermist Chloe Smith competed in the Alabama Taxidermist Associations annual Convention and Competition in Sheffield late last month landing top honors in the Professional Division Small Mammal Category with a stunning lifesize Grey Fox. Her awards included First Place, Best of Category and the Brian Harness Memorial Award as well as a first place score for her habitat. What makes her accomplishments even more incredible is the fact that this was her first competition and she was able to achieve what takes most competitors years to accomplish. Another incredible fact is that Chloe is only 19 years old. She has rapidly moved up from intern to senior staff taxidermist just in the last 2 ½ years while employed at Expressions of Wildlife. She has recently become an instructor in their Taxidermy Tech program teaching basic taxidermy skills to aspiring taxidermist from all over the country.

Chloe is originally from Washington State and moved with her family to the Gulf Coast just in the last few years. She is a 2022 graduate of Gulf Breeze High School. She developed a strong interest in Taxidermy as early as 9 years old and didn't waste any time getting started on skinning projects, skeletal articulation and other projects that most young girls would not find at all interesting. She loves animals of all kinds, and really wants to understand everything about them. She has a room full of interesting pets... snakes, turtles, a chameleon and multiple species of exotic fish that she could talk about all day... not just anatomy, but physiology and behavior as well as their habits. This is the same kind of passion she puts into her work. She is a very skilled flat artist and sculptor and her paintings and drawings are amazing. This combined with her deep desire to really understand her animal subjects from the inside out is what makes her such a good taxidermist. Molding, casting and sculpting are strengths for her. She mounts alot of the lifesize animals, big and small, and does most of the open mouth work. She is very good with waterfowl and replica fish and though the gameheads haven't been a consistent assignment for her, she can do them and has worked on everything from Bison to Eland to Whitetails.

Chloes Fox is not just any mounted fox. The only commercially made part used on the mount were the eyes. Every other part of the mount was hand made custom by her...the body was molded and carcass cast, the jawset and inner mouth was molded and cast in exact detail. Even the tree limb was molded and cast from a real tree. These are very advanced skills for such a young taxidermist, particularly in the detail that she created. She is currently making plans to attend the Alabama, Florida and Georgia Conventions next year as well as the World Taxidermy Championship.

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