



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**YOUNG ARTIST EXHIBITION:
A “MUST SEE” SHOWCASE OF AMAZING ARTWORK**

The 12th annual Omaha Summer Arts Festival Young Artist Exhibition, sponsored by Target and Qwest, will be presented in the Michael Phipps Gallery of the W. Dale Clark Library on Saturday and Sunday, June 23 and 24, from noon to 5 p.m. each day.

“The talent of our young artists is truly awe-inspiring,” commented Cathy Witt-Tichauer who coordinates the program. “This is a must-see show and the city’s largest, most comprehensive exhibition of artwork created by young people.”

Each year, children and teens of all skill levels and backgrounds in grades six through 12 are invited to submit original artwork for inclusion in the Young Artist Exhibition. Categories include clay, drawing, graphics/printmaking, 3D/mixed media, painting and sculpture. The artwork is displayed in the Michael Phipps Gallery of the W. Dale Clark Library as a featured component of the Omaha Summer Arts Festival.

At 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 23, a special Young Artist Exhibition Recognition Brunch will be held in front of the Library. All participating student and art educators, as well as their families and friends, are invited to attend. More than \$2,500 in art supplies, school participation awards and senior scholarships will be presented. Thirteen Merit Awards including best of show, second place and third place also will be awarded. Every student artist will receive a certificate of recognition.

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2007 Young Artist Exhibition Poster Features Artwork of Brownell-Talbot Student

Each year, an illustration created by a young artist is selected to appear on the official Young Artist Exhibition poster. This year, the honor went to Dale Chong, a 7th grader at Brownell-Talbot. Chong's layered paper illustration entitled "The Bridge" was inspired by the cloth molas made by Cuna Indians in South America

According to her art teacher, Linda Duda, Chong chose warm colors, as she was originally going to make a celestial sun. However, she later renamed the piece "The Bridge" as she thought it spanned the paper and looked more like a bridge. "Dale is a gifted artist with wonderful attention to detail," said Duda.

Chong is one of the youngest artists ever selected to contribute to the Young Artist Exhibition poster. "This is the first recognition I've ever received for my work," said Chong, who is an aspiring dancer, singer and musician in addition to being a talented artist. "One of my dreams is to become famous," she said.

For more information regarding the Omaha Summer Arts Festival presented by First National Bank, and the Young Artist Exhibition please visit the web at www.SummerArts.org

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