

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 1, 2009

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YOUNG ARTIST EXHIBITION W. DALE CLARK LIBRARY AND ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE GALLERY

High school and middle school students will display their artwork during the 14th annual Omaha Summer Arts Festival Young Artist Exhibition. The Artists' Cooperative Gallery, 405 South 11th Street, will exhibit the work of high school students, and the Michael Phipps Gallery inside the W. Dale Clark Library, 215 South 15th Street, will feature the work of upper-elementary and middle school students. Both exhibitions, sponsored by Target and Qwest, will be presented on Saturday, June 27 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, June 28, from noon to 5 p.m.

"The Young Artists Exhibition participants make up a beautiful, eclectic group that reminds us of the many talented teachers and students in our educational system," said Cathy Witt Tichauer who has coordinated the exhibition since it began in 1995. "I always like to call the event 'good kids doing good things.' I hope to see a lot of familiar faces, and a lot of new ones at both locations as we celebrate our 14th year!"

Children and teens of all skills levels in grades six through 12 were invited to submit original artwork for inclusion in the annual Young Artist Exhibition. Categories of submissions include clay, drawing, graphics/printmaking, 3-D mixed media, painting and sculpture. The event is intended to highlight school-based arts education and encourage youth to pursue the visual arts by giving them an opportunity to display their work.

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“Another exciting component of the Exhibition this year is an exhibit and hands-on demonstration by Omaha Clay Works Studio owner Tom Harnack,” said Tichauer. Harnack has been mentoring children from different neighborhoods in the art of clay through classroom instruction, exhibition and demonstration.

Young Artist Exhibition participants will be honored at two special receptions throughout the weekend. At the Artists’ Cooperative Gallery on Saturday, June 27, at 10:30 a.m., high school students will be recognized at the Young Artist Exhibition Awards Brunch. All students, art educators, families and friends are invited to attend the event at which more than \$2,000 in scholarships, merit awards, framing and art supplies will be presented and a breakfast buffet will be served.

Elementary and middle school students will receive certificates of recognition and more than \$500 in art supplies at the W. Dale Clark Library on Sunday, June 28 at 3:30 p.m. Students, teachers, families and friends will enjoy cookies and lemonade following the award presentation.

This year, Dawn Burton of Roncalli Catholic High School will be honored. Burton and her students have participated in the Young Artist Exhibition every year since its conception.

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

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