

**Joan H. Rosen, Director of Art and Music
Bayonne Board of Education
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

39th Annual Art Exhibit - 2010

Students from throughout the Bayonne Public Schools will have their artwork on display during the 39th Annual District Art Show from Wednesday, May 12th through Wednesday, May 19th.

Co-Chairs for this year's exhibit are art teachers Terri Graham (Bayonne High School), Enid Doyle (John M. Bailey School), Stephen Yurchak (Washington School), Catherine Nicaretta-Duffy (Horace Mann and John M. Bailey Schools) and Dara Fischer (Woodrow Wilson School).

"As usual, the exhibit will be on display at the Bayonne Public Library and Cultural Center at 31st Street and Avenue C, in the 2nd floor Mary O'Connor Gallery and the display cases at the entrance of the gallery," according to Joan H. Rosen, Director of Music and Art for the Bayonne Public Schools. Exhibit hours are Monday through Friday, 3:30 – 4:30 PM.; Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, 6:00 – 8:00 PM; and Saturday, 1:00 – 2:00 PM.

The committee is very excited about this year's exhibit which will have its opening on Wednesday evening, May 12th from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. Light refreshments will be provided.

In addition, the Visual Tour of Bayonne, featuring artwork depicting Bayonne scenes created by Bayonne Public School students will be on display as well. Brian Belton (Robinson School) assists with the coordination of the Visual Tour of Bayonne.

This year at the Annual Exhibit, Bayonne High School seniors, Michelle McNulty, Melissa Bowman, Robert Santiago, Angelina Roman, Mary Mercer, Anthony Quedding, Lilian Makar, Rebecca Turner, Lauren Buchanan, Rheanna Hauman, Annabeth Stoll, and Illianna Torres are the recipients of the Faculty Student Alumni scholarship award and

they will be honored at the Opening reception of the 39th Annual Art Exhibit for their excellence in visual art.

In addition to the student work on display and the opening night reception, there are three workshops planned for the public. Monday, May 17, Tuesday, May 18 and Wednesday, May 19. The workshops are between 6:30 and 7:30 PM. All students participating in this year's exhibit will receive a certificate designed by committee member Dara Fisher.

The department has worked with technology teachers throughout the schools to document the varied visual art lessons taught and the scope and sequence of our district art program from pre-school through grade 12. There will be a videotape and DVDs on display featuring many of the lessons. This media presentation was edited by Sal Iannaci, manager of the Bayonne Educational Network.

Classroom teachers can contact the library business office to arrange a field trip during the daytime from 9AM to 3PM for their students by calling 201 858-6973.

“Many of the projects this year were planned as a means for our students to gain proficiency with the New Jersey Visual and Performing Arts Standards,” and to reach the state benchmarks in their grade level in visual art,” said Mrs. Rosen. “In some instances the teachers have attached a brief explanation of some of the projects. Also many of the projects were inspired by famous artists and their works from throughout the ages that the students viewed and studied in class.”

Richard Ondrey, Bayonne High School graduate of 1991, designed the banner announcing the show on the front of the library. The posters and flyers announcing the event carry the same image.

In addition to the committee chairs, art teachers Brian Belton (Robinson School), Lesley Caswell (Vroom and Robinson Schools), MaryAnne Christiana, (Lincoln Community School), Tom Hart (Bayonne High School), Kathleen Gidich (Midtown Community and Henry E. Harris Schools), Eileen Kosinski-Piszko (Midtown Community School), Charlann Meluso (Bayonne High School), June Mohovich (Bayonne High School), Joan O'Connell (Henry E. Harris School), JoAnn Plantamura (Woodrow Wilson

and Mary J. Donohoe Schools), Regina Plesniarski (Bayonne High School), Christina Poruczynski (Bayonne High School), Marcia Singer (Public School #14) and Christopher Wolfer (Bayonne High School) will present student work.

The work represents a variety of media from ceramics to weaving, from jewelry to torn paper, from painting to basketry, from photographs to drawings, from sculpture to computer images.

This year the postcard announcing the event features the artwork of: Gabriela Rodriguez, Bayonne High School student of Christopher Wolfer; Pamela Santiago, Robinson School student of Brian Belton; Dylan Natal, Midtown Community School student of Kathleen Gidich; Megan Hanley, Bayonne High School student of Tom Hart; Sarah O'Brien, Vroom School student of Lesley Caswell; Jacqueline Alcantara, Lincoln Community School student of MaryAnne Christiana.

The beauty of the show is seeing the development of the students through the sound art curriculum in our district from pre-kindergarten to grade 12," commented Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan, superintendent of schools. "Young artists from throughout the district under the guidance of their dedicated teachers, work hard all year long, experiencing a wealth of art processes and techniques. This show is a small sampling of the creative abilities of our students. Of course the success of the show still depends on community support of this exhibit," she continued.

"We urge you to visit the show to view the magnificent work of our students, many of whom have achieved awards and recognition for their work in city, county, state, national and international competitions. To sustain an exhibit of this magnitude over the decades speaks volumes for the commitment to the arts of the Bayonne Board of Education and the Bayonne Public Schools. We hope all our community members, parents and guardians will be able to visit the exhibit and celebrate in our children's creative expression. The exhibit is a vehicle for the students to share their talent with the community, and for the public to witness the product of the fine training offered by our exceptional visual art staff. Come and share your presence with us. It's free and open to the public," added Mrs. Rosen.