Written by

Congressman Keith Ellison (D-Minneapolis) will host his 2009 - 5th Congressional District High School Arts Education Forum on Monday evening, May 11th, from 6-8 p.m. in the GAIA Building at the Perpich Center for Arts Education (PCAE), 6125 Olson Memorial Highway (Hwy 55) (1 mile west of highway 100) in Golden Valley.

The Art Forum is the culmination of a one month art exhibition at PCAE featuring young artists from the 5th Congressional District who submitted their artwork to the 28th Annual U.S. Congressional Art Competition.

"I urge the public to join us at this tribute to the young talent we have here in the 5th Congressional District. I continue to be amazed by the breadth of sparkling ability found in the works of our young artists," Ellison said. "The diversity of the 5th Congressional District can be found in each of the works of these young artists. You can almost feel their take on the world in their artwork. With talent like this, we are in good hands," the Congressman stated.

A total of forty six pieces of artwork were submitted by twenty seven art teachers from sixteen schools in the 5th District. Schools competing include: Southwest High School (Minneapolis), St. Anthony High School, Hopkins High School, Fridley High School, Phoenix VOA High School (Minneapolis), De La Salle High School (Minneapolis), Robbinsdale Armstrong High School, Blake School (Minneapolis), P.E.A.S.E. Academy (Minneapolis), Edison High School (Minneapolis), Columbia Heights High School, El Colegio High School (Minneapolis), Interdistrict Downtown School (Minneapolis), Spring Lake Park High School, Perpich Center for the Arts (Golden Valley), and Academy of Holy Angels (Minneapolis).

Entries will be on view at the Perpich Center through the 11th when they will be recognized for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, as well as merit and honorable mentions. The first place selection will be on display for the year in the corridors of the United States Capitol along with artwork from other Congressional districts throughout the United States. The 2nd and 3rd place selections will be hung in Congressman Ellison's Washington, D.C. and Minneapolis offices.

Questions regarding the competition may be directed to Congressman Ellison's community representative, Hon. Betty Folliard, at 612-522-1212, or betty.folliard@mail.house.gov