

Congressional Arts Forum names winners

Written by

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US Rep. Keith Ellison hosted the 29th Annual High School Congressional Arts Competition Forum May 3 at the Perpich Center for Art Education (PCAE) in Golden Valley. Each spring, Ellison sponsors a district-wide high school arts competition. The High School Congressional Arts Competition is an opportunity to recognize and encourage the artistic talent of students from across the nation and in each Congressional District.

A total of 50 pieces of artwork were submitted by 30 art teachers from 20 schools in the Fifth Congressional District. Schools competing included: Perpich Center for the Arts High School (Golden Valley), Hopkins High School, Hosterman District 287 (New Hope), Washburn High School (Minneapolis), Fridley High School, Robbinsdale Cooper High School, Robbinsdale Armstrong High School, Southwest High School (Minneapolis), FAIR School Downtown, Totino-Grace High School (Fridley), Richfield High School, Spring Lake Park High School, Breck School (Golden Valley), Spring Lake Park Learning Alternatives Community School, The Blake School (Minneapolis), Metro Heights Academy (Columbia Heights), P.E.A.S.E. Academy (Minneapolis), Phoenix VOA High School (Minneapolis), Columbia Heights High School, and El Colegio High School (Minneapolis).

“The quality of artwork in this competition was truly astounding. These talented young people are a real tribute to the value of arts education in our schools,” Ellison said. “The diversity of styles, techniques, and perspectives demonstrated the potential and talent of this new generation of artists.

Ellison awarded certificates of participation to each student and announced the winners at the arts education forum:



• 1st Place – Abigail Marolt of the Perpich Center for Art Education (Grade 11). Abigail’s artwork will hang in a national art exhibit in the corridor leading to the United States Capitol for one year. Southwest Airlines donated two round trip tickets to Washington, D.C. for to Abigail and one parent for the formal Art Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony on June 17. Additionally, the Perpich Foundation presented her with a \$150 award. Abigail’s teacher is Colleen Brennan.

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