

Biggs Museum of American Art

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302.674.2111 ext. 105

Media Contact
Sarah DiMondi
sdimondi@biggsmuseum.org



ARTS CONNECT-ED

November 6, 2009 – February 21, 2010

A Celebration of Local Youth Talent From Delaware Schools and VSA of Delaware

Dover, DE – The Biggs Museum of American Art will open the winter 2009 exhibition: *Arts ConnectED* on Friday, November 6, 2009 with a First Look pARTy! from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Museum. The public is invited to attend this free program to enjoy free Chick-Fil-A and celebrate the creative talents of our local youth.

Arts ConnectEd features the young talent of students in Delaware schools. The exhibition consists of four month-long installations, each featuring the artwork of a different school in the state of Delaware. *Arts ConnectEd* reflects the quality and diversity of art education in Delaware schools. The Biggs Museum is dedicated to promoting and supporting the role arts play in youth development. In addition to the four school installations, *Arts ConnectEd* will also feature *Sewell's Studio*, an interactive creativity center, providing young museum visitors the opportunity to create works of art similar to those currently on display. The Biggs Museum is honored to foster this commitment to learning and community. Delaware Schools showcasing in *Arts ConnectEd* include, Holy Cross Elementary, Campus Community School, William Henry Middle School and Ursuline Academy.

All four school participants will showcase works collectively created under the direction of the school's art teacher. Children visiting the exhibition will have the opportunity to recreate the

works currently on display in *Sewell's Studio* with supplies provided by the Museum. The art projects to be displayed from each of the four school participants are as follows:

November 2009: Holy Cross School

Art Instructor: Sharon Benini

Op Art created with colored pencil in the style of Victor Vasarely and Bridget Riley.

December 2009: William Henry Middle School

Art Instructor : Valerie Connaghan

Greeting cards decorated with collage by 5th and 6th grade students.

January 2010: Campus Community School

Art Instructor: Jennifer Boland

Recycled art, 3-dimensional gargoyles by 6th and 7th grade students and self-portrait paintings by 1st through 7th grade students.

February 2010: Ursuline Academy

Art Instructor: Erin McNichol

Project TBD

In addition to the school displays to be featured in Arts ConnectED, the Biggs Museum is proud to present two month-long exhibitions featuring artwork created through VSA (Very Special Arts of Delaware). VSA Arts of Delaware is a state-wide nonprofit arts organization dedicated to providing children and adults with disabilities opportunities to participate and achieve in the area of performing and visual arts. This admirable organization develops programs and resources to help people with disabilities develop artistic skills and enhance confidence while promotion access, inclusion and diversity.

The first VSA exhibition, *Celebration of Creativity*, will be on display in Gallery 7 from November 6, 2009 to January 3, 2010. *Celebration of Creativity* showcases the visual artwork produced by participants in VSA arts of Delaware's various artist-in-residency projects during the 2008-2009 program cycle. The second VSA exhibition, *A View Through My Window*, will be on display in Gallery 7 from January 8, 2010 to February 28, 2010. *A View Through My Window* features a selection of works created through a domestic violence art project that served nearly 75 adults and children in the state of Delaware. This exhibit features canvas windows representing the messages of individuals who have experienced domestic violence first hand. Artwork included in this exhibit was created in shelters & support groups in all three counties of Delaware and poignant works of art by children who have been affected by domestic violence will also be on display. The messages conveyed by the participants make this a powerful and moving experience.

Each month-long school display will open on the November 2009, December 2009, January 2010, and February 2010 First Friday programs. The *Arts ConnectED* First Look! pARTies are sponsored by Chick Fila of Camden, DE. *Arts ConnectED* will be on view through February 21, 2010. Along with this exhibition, the Biggs Museum will be offering a variety of winter art programs for children. For more information on the *Arts ConnectED* exhibition and its accompanying programs, please visit the museum web-site at www.biggsmuseum.org or call (302)674-2111.

Event Quick-Stats

Event: First Friday: First Look pARTy!: Arts ConnectED to Holy Cross Elementary School

Date: Friday, November 6

Time: 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Price: Free, All Ages

Description: Celebrate youth talent in the arts and by being the first to look at one of four month-long installments of the Arts ConnectED exhibition. The artwork featured was created by student of Holy Cross Elementary School of Dover, DE. Light refreshments. Food and beverage provided by Chick-Fila of Camden, DE. Pre-registration is not required.

About the Museum

The Biggs Museum seeks to serve a diverse public as a regional museum of fine and decorative arts, made from 1700 to present, representing the State of Delaware and the surrounding Mid-Atlantic region. The Biggs Museum engages audiences through a compelling program of temporary exhibitions and programming. The Biggs Museum encourages the development of creativity and an appreciation for art by offering a comprehensive slate of educational programming for all ages. The Biggs Museum of American Art is a private, non-profit 501(c) (3) organization.

Hours of Operation: Tuesday through Saturday; 9:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Sunday; 1:30 p.m. until 4: 30 p.m.

Admission: Biggs Museum is free to the public year-round. Fees may apply to certain programs and special events.

The Biggs Museum of American Art

406 Federal Street

Dover, DE 19901

302.674.2111

www.biggsmuseum.org

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Top Images:

Left: Summer ArtVentures: July 2009

Center: Mini-Masters: June 2009

Right: Mini-Masters: September 2009