



THE RICHMOND ART CENTER ANNOUNCES THE WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL (WCCUSD) STUDENT ART SHOW

The Richmond Art Center has hosted this exhibition for more than 50 years, which features the work of over 300 local schoolchildren.

RICHMOND, CA -- MARCH 16, 2016 -- In collaboration with the West Contra Costa School District (WCCUSD), the Richmond Art Center will present the annual West Contra Costa Unified School District Art Show in its Community Gallery.

The Richmond Art Center has a prosperous and long-standing 51-year partnership with the WCCUSD, and this year there are over 300 works of various media and subject matter on display representing the creative artistic talents of students from middle and high schools throughout the school district. The Art Center and WCCUSD share an ongoing vision that art education is a crucial component of a thriving and productive society.

There will be a special reception honoring the students and art teachers on Thursday, April 14 from 5-7 pm, which will be free and open to the public.

In addition, numerous art awards will be given out by the Richmond Art Center, the El Sobrante Art Guild, and other community members for the students' artistic talent and originality.

The West Contra Costa Unified School District has generously sponsored the annual student exhibition.

The student show coincides with the Art Center's featured exhibitions: *David Park: Personal Perspective* and *The Human Spirit: Contemporary Figuration as an Expression of Humanism* focusing on the historical and aesthetic development of Bay Area's figurative art over the past 60 years.

About the Richmond Art Center: The Richmond Art Center is the largest visual arts center in the East Bay, delivering exciting arts experiences to people of all ages, reflecting the diverse richness of our community. The Art Center features contemporary exhibitions in four galleries, hundreds of classes and workshops in its well-equipped six studios, and delivers these same experiences throughout the Community in the schools, community centers and the Richmond Public Library.

This year, the Richmond Art Center serves nearly four thousand students through classes and programs taught by professional artists, both on site at the Art Center and at numerous sites throughout Richmond.

The Richmond Art Center originated in 1936, when local artist Hazel Salmi, who traversed the streets of Richmond with a suitcase packed with art supplies, eager to teach art to anyone interested. Today, the Art Center continues to breathe life into Salmi's original vision: *That within every person lives an artist.*

Please visit the Richmond Art Center's website <http://richmondartcenter.org> for a full detail of activities and events relating to these exhibitions.

Contact:

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Alex Contreras, *Tatanua Inspired Mask*, Korematsu Middle School;

Rudy Suarez, *Untitled*, Kennedy High School;

Karla Cadena, *Adinkra Cloth*, Pinole Valley High School;

Kevin Hoac, *Burger Fries & Milk Shake*, El Cerrito High School

