

Press Contact:
Alice Warnecke
(707) 579-1500 x19
awarnecke@sonomacountymuseum.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ArtQuest: a Juried Student Exhibition

Opening Event: Friday, February 17, 5-7pm

Exhibition Dates: February 17 - March 13, 2011

ArtQuest: A Juried Student Exhibition highlights the outstanding work by students in the visual arts segment of ArtQuest at Santa Rosa High School. Sonoma County Museum is presenting this exhibit for the third year. Art will be displayed in the main gallery of the historic Post Office Building. "And now for Something Completely Different" is the ArtQuest 2010-11 is the school-wide interdisciplinary theme. "The theme is used as a guiding principal and a creative problem to be solved" says Jan Sofie, Director of ArtQuest at Santa Rosa High School.

Now in its 17th year, this award-winning arts magnet program offers eight Arts disciplines including Digital Arts, Photography, Video Arts, Visual Fine Arts, Dance, Theatre Arts and Vocal and Instrumental Music. Curriculum is rooted in the *California Content Standards* incorporating the five component strands of Arts Education: Artistic Perception, Creative Expression, Historical and Cultural Context, Aesthetic Valuing, and Connections, Relationships and Applications.

ArtQuest's vision embraces the idea that students who are interested in the Arts can benefit from a challenging and supportive community. Beyond the development of high level skills, ArtQuest is committed to the essential 'habits of mind' including envisioning, persistence, creative problem solving, critical thinking, judgment, the tolerance of ambiguity and divergent perspectives and collaboration, which are all learned through the Arts and can be transferred effectively to other areas of education and life. Students often work with guest artists, go on off-site visits and field trips, and participate in a wide range of exhibition and performance opportunities.

The 2011 exhibition was selected by a jury of six curators, artists and professionals, including Liz Uribe, Board Member, Sonoma County Museum; Prof. Micheal Schwager, Art and Art History Dept., Sonoma State University; Tara Matheny-Schuster, Arts Coordinator of the City of Santa Rosa; Jennifer Bethke, Education Curator at Sonoma County Museum and Alice Warnecke, Marketing Assistant at Sonoma County Museum. Prizes will be awarded by the jury for the opening night.

This exhibition is sponsored in part by The Anorcase Foundation. This and all of the exhibitions at the Sonoma County Museum are supported by the Museum's membership program and ongoing fundraising activities.

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MUSEUM

About Sonoma County Museum:

Founded in 1985, the Sonoma County Museum is the region's only art and history museum with a collection of over 20,000 objects.

Through the preservation of collections and the presentation of exhibitions and programs, the Museum attracts more than 28,000 people annually. As its flagship program, the Museum & Schools Program is ongoing throughout the school calendar year and provides students and teachers with free/subsidized bussing, guided tours of the museum, hands-on materials for additional learning, and free Educator Guides for teachers – following CA State Content Standards.

For more information, please visit the Museum's website at www.sonomacountymuseum.org.

Hours:

Tuesday – Sunday, 11am -5pm, Closed Major Holidays

Admission:

\$5 general, \$2 for students & seniors

Location:

425 7th Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401

Website:

www.sonomacountymuseum.org

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