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PRESENTATION OF CHILDREN'S ARTWORK TO STATE LEGISLATORS

JEFFERSON CITY, MO—Wednesday, Feb. 6, the Southeast Missouri Arts Council will present pieces of children's artwork from the 13th Annual Children's Arts Festival to members of the Missouri State Legislature in Jefferson City, Missouri during Citizen's Day at the Legislature.

These visual art pieces, by children from each of the 16 Legislative Districts represented by the Arts Council of Southeast Missouri, will be on display in the legislator's offices in the Capitol Building for the next year. Arts educators and arts organizations hope this artwork will serve as a reminder that the arts are an instrumental part of a child's development process, and funding for educational arts programs is integral to the success of future generations in the state of Missouri.

Introduced in the year 2000, the Children's Arts Festival was developed as a way to showcase what local arts teachers, and their students, are doing in their classrooms. This year's show was juried and will be exhibited for the month of February, displaying pieces from students in the 3rd grade through 8th grade. The top 8 entries from each age group are featured in a booklet produced specifically for the event.

A total of 9 additional pieces were also selected for presentation to City Council members. These pieces will hang in the City Council Chambers for the next year, and will also serve as a colorful reminder to City legislators about the importance of art education in our local schools. Arrangements will be made for the students to present their pieces to the City Council, but you will be able to view them at the Arts Council during the February exhibit.

Thank you, again, to the local sponsors of this event: Macy's, Red Letter Communications, the Southeast Missourian, Southeast Health, Wood and Huston Bank, Alliance Bank, First Missouri State Bank, McDonald's, Chick-Fil-A, and Sugar Buzz Bakery.

The Arts Council of Southeast Missouri is located at 32 North Main Street in Downtown Cape Girardeau, MO. The gallery is open Tuesday- Saturday, from 10am to 4pm.