

**FOR RELEASE:** January 22, 2013  
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### **13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHILDREN'S ARTS FESTIVAL AT THE ARTS COUNCIL**

**CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO**—Friday, February 1st, from 4 to 8 p.m., the Southeast Missouri Arts Council invites you to attend a reception for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Children's Arts Festival. This much-loved exhibit, which features visual art pieces and poetry by children from 21 local schools, will be on display until February 23.

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.

The show is juried, and the top 8 entries in each age group, from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade, are featured in a booklet distributed at the event. The student poetry section introduced last year will be continued in 2013's Festival. Students were prompted to write poetry about Grant Wood's piece *American Gothic*. One winner will be selected from each grade level for this category as well.

Light appetizers will be provided, courtesy of Chick-Fil-A, and juice boxes will be available for our younger guests, thanks to McDonalds. Sugar Buzz Bakery has also generously donated cookies for the event.

Thank you to the local sponsors of this event: Macy's, the Southeast Missourian, Southeast Health, River City Custom Framing, Alliance Bank, First Missouri State Bank, and Wood and Huston Bank.

Come join other arts patrons and supporters in viewing the 2013 Children's Arts Festival next Friday at the Arts Council of Southeast Missouri, located at 32 North Main Street in Cape Girardeau, MO. The gallery is also open Tuesday- Saturday, from 10am to 4pm.