

MATSUI ANNOUNCES WINNER OF CONGRESSIONAL ART COMPETITION FOR THE 5th DISTRICT

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June 2, 2005

Thursday, June 2, 2005

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Sacramento, CA – Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui (CA-5) during an exhibition of the artwork for the 24th Annual Congressional Art Competition announced that the piece by Brandi Johnson of Sheldon High School, “Cultural Influences,” is the winner for the 5th Congressional District of California. Students from Sacramento-area schools were invited to submit their artwork and on June 14th a gala will be held in the U. S. Capitol for the winning entry for each Congressional District.

“I was so pleased to see all of the artwork submitted for the Congressional Art Competition and the caliber of the artwork. Sacramento truly has some up-and-coming young artists,” said Congresswoman Matsui. “The judges had a difficult decision, but the piece entered by Brandi Johnson will represent our city well. Her artwork highlights her artistic skill and truly epitomizes this year’s competition theme of “Gifts from the Past.”

The Congresswoman also announced that Karen Angel of Sacramento High School was awarded second place with her combination of works, “El Salvador (Abuelita)” and “Departure from El Salvador (Mom),” and Anneliese Salgado of Sheldon High School was awarded third place for her piece “The Feminist Viewpoint.”

In addition to having their artwork on display in the Cannon Tunnel of the U.S. Capitol Building for the year, the winner will receive three roundtrip airline tickets to Washington D.C., and hotel accommodations for themselves and their family from Southwest Airlines and the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission. The second and third place winners will both receive gift certificates to the University Art Store.

Six members of the local arts community served as judges, including Stephanie Cornejo of La Raza Galería-a Posada; Jan Geiger, Commissioner of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission; Erika Boderman Kraft, the Arts Education Coordinator for the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission; Patti Miller, Commissioner of the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission; Lisa Nava of Downtown Resources; and Lori Rianda of the Arts and Business Council.

This year’s Congressional Art Competition theme is “Gifts from the Past.” Students were asked to examine the people, things and events from their past that have influenced who they are today. Entries were judged on the artist’s adherence to the theme, the student’s artistic technique and the uniqueness of the piece.

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