NEWS RELEASE

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ArtsFest student photography contest winners unveiled



Photo by Sara Loomis Martin County High School



Photo by Leven Roberts Jensen Beach High School



Photo by Courtland Thomas South Fork High School

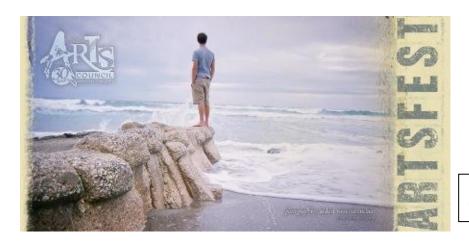


Photo by Aidan VanSeutendael The Pine School

Stuart, FL, March 17, 2011 – The four winning photographs from the Arts Council's ArtsFest student photography contest were unveiled on Wednesday, March 16 along East Ocean Boulevard in Stuart.

Over 120 students from South Fork High School, Martin County High School, Jensen Beach High School and the Pine School participated in the contest. Winners included South Fork High School junior Courtland Thomas, Martin County High School senior Sara Loomis, Jensen Beach High School junior Leven Roberts and the Pine School freshman Aidan VanSeutendael.

With the help of the local Walgreens store, located at Monterey Road and East Ocean Boulevard in Stuart, over 3,000 photos were developed for the contest. The four winning photos, one chosen from each school by local photographers Lindsey Potter, Deborah Silver and Steven Martine, were added to the art wall lining Memorial Park. The art wall will remain in place through August when the park's renovation is expected to be completed. Postcard prints of the four winning photos will be available for sale at ArtsFest.

During the unveiling, City of Stuart Mayor Jeffrey Krauskopf praised the growth of ArtsFest and thanked all of the community leaders involved in the renovation of Memorial Park. Tom Winter, featured ArtsFest artist, announced the four student photography winners.

ArtsFest will be held Saturday, March 19 and Sunday, March 20 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. More than 150 talented artists from across the country will line East Ocean Boulevard in downtown Stuart to celebrate a weekend filled with fine arts and interactive entertainment. In conjunction with ArtsFest, MusicFest will be offered on Friday, March 18 from 5 to 11 p.m. at Gazebo Park. Funds raised through both ArtsFest and MusicFest will support the on-going programs of the Arts Council including arts information activities, arts education programs for youth and support for artists and arts organizations. Admission is free; however, a suggested donation of \$3 is greatly appreciated.

This event would not be possible without all of the generous sponsors of ArtsFest, including Channel 5 News, Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers, Dunn Capital Management, Oculina Bank, Waste Management and Straticon Construction.

The Arts Council Inc., serving Stuart and Martin County, is a 501(c) 3 non-profit membership organization that supports local arts and artists. Revenues from events allow the Arts Council to sustain on-going programs such as arts information activities, arts education programs for youth and support for artists and arts organizations. The Arts Council and the Court House Cultural Center Gallery are located at 80 E. Ocean Boulevard, Stuart, Florida. For information visit the Arts Council website at www.martinarts.org or call 772-287-6676.

The Arts Council is sponsored in part by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, City of Stuart, Martin County Board of County Commissioners, and private contributions.

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