



Congressman Tim Bishop

FIRST DISTRICT -- NEW YORK

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BISHOP INVITES STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN ART CONTEST

Winner Will have Work Displayed in US Capitol

Coram, NY—Congressman Tim Bishop and the East End Arts Council have invited high school art students throughout the 1st Congressional District to participate in the 26th Annual Congressional Art Competition this April. The winner of the competition will have his or her work displayed in a year-long exhibit in the U.S. Capitol and will receive three airline tickets complimentary of Southwest Airlines to travel to D.C. for the opening reception.

Bishop's office has sent an invitation to participate in the competition to all high schools in the congressional district. The contest is open to all high school students in Brookhaven, Smithtown and the five East End towns. Those interested in participating should contact Congressman Bishop's office as soon as possible.

"The Congressional Art Contest is a wonderful opportunity to identify and encourage our nation's talented young artists," Bishop said. "It provides a showcase for their talent and continues Long Island's rich artistic heritage."

The competition will give talented art students the opportunity to have their work shown in a professional exhibit April 13-29 at the Middle Country Library in Selden. The East End Arts Council will curate the exhibit. First, Second, Third places and Honorable Mentions will be selected by judges chosen by the East End Arts Council – Roxanne Panero, a Sagaponack painter who has taught on the faculty of two colleges and at the Fashion Institute in New York City, and Tom Steele, a noted photographer and President of the East Hampton Artists Alliance.

Students interested in entering work should contact their art teachers or principals. Please make sure that all work is wired and ready to hang. Art work must be submitted to the East End Arts Council office at 133 East Main Street in Riverhead on April 2 or 3. The office is open from 10 am to 4 pm. The contact at East End Arts Council is Jane Kirkwood at 727-0900 or e-mail her at gallery@eastendarts.org.

The winner will be announced at a reception on Sunday, April 29 at 2 pm at the Middle Country Library. All participating artists, their families, and teachers are invited to attend the reception, where Bishop will recognize each student and present him or her with a certificate before announcing the winners. All artwork will be returned to the artists after the reception, except for the winning artwork which will be sent to Washington D.C. for the exhibit in the U.S. Capitol along with the work of other winners across the nation.

Since the Congressional Art Competition debuted in 1982, members of the U.S. House of Representatives have conducted nearly 5,000 art competitions involving hundreds of thousands

of school students. Those interested in participating should contact Jane Finalborgo in Congressman Bishop's District office in Southampton at 631-259-8450 or email her at jfinal@optonline.net

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