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Larson: East Hartford Student Wins Congressional Arts Competition

Winner's Art to be displayed at the U.S. Capitol

Hartford, CT- On Thursday, April 1st, U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) hosted the 29th Annual Congressional Arts Competition at the Wadsworth Atheneum. High school students from the Greater Hartford area competed to have their art work displayed at the U.S. Capitol and to receive a $6,000 scholarship to the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Congressman Larson is proud to announce the winner of the competition is Julia Steele, a sophomore at East Hartford High School. Her work is an interpretive self-portrait drawn in colored pencil. The judges of this year's competition were John Nordyke and Christine Dalenta, both of whom are Assistant Professors at the University of Hartford Art School.

"I would like to say congratulations to all of the students who participated in this year's

Congressional Arts Competition. I am always impressed and in awe of the artistic abilities possessed by the students in the region," said Congressman Larson. ***"Julia is truly a gifted and talented artist. Her self-portrait was praised by the judges, staff at the Wadsworth and attendees at the competition for its attention to detail, use of colors, and imagery. Through her work, you can see Julia's love and devotion to art, and I am pleased it will be shared with the visitors to our nation's Capitol."***

In addition to having her art work displayed at the U.S. Capitol, Julia will receive two airline tickets, courtesy of Southwest Airlines, to attend the opening ceremony of this year's exhibit.

The Congressional Arts Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talents of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

Julia Steele of East Hartford, interpretive self-portrait

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