

NEWS RELEASE**January 7, 2008**

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Art show season begins with *Reflections* display

Beginning in January each year, the educational service center of Everett Public Schools is transformed into an art gallery with show after show of student art. The display season begins with the PTA *Reflections* show – an opportunity for students to show their creativity through art that supports a specific theme. This year's theme, selected from the thousands of ideas submitted to the National PTA's Reflections Team, is *I can make a difference by ...*

For the *Reflections* show, original student artwork from kindergarten through grade 12 is accepted in various media – literature, music composition, photography, visual arts, film/video, and choreography/dance. Entries are judged by grade-level divisions on creative ability, originality, and upon each young artist's interpretation of the theme. Works are first judged locally for the chance to move to the state and ultimately national competition levels. *Reflections* will be on display until Jan. 30. First place entries from the Everett show will be among the works considered for the state competition.

Of the 241 entries on display, 34 entries will be chosen for the state-level competition. In the past, Everett students have done well in the *Reflections* competition, including a recent music entry that went on to the national competition. An artists' reception on Jan. 16 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. is open to the public.

Following the PTA show, three district-sponsored shows entitled *Imagine ... Design ... Create* make it possible for the public to see even more student creativity. This year marks year number 10 for the district's student art show project.

Middle school student art work will fill the administrative gallery from Feb. 5 through March 4, 2008. A reception for the young artists and their families takes place following the school board meeting on Feb. 26. Comments from the judges will be distributed to students and teachers in the students' art classes.

The high school art show is on display from March 24 through April 24, 2008 with a reception following the school board meeting on April 15. At this reception, Superintendent Carol Whitehead will announce which piece of art she has selected to remain on permanent display as part of the *Superintendent's Purchase Award*. That 2008 selection, paid for by the Everett Public Schools Foundation, will join other student art pieces dating back almost 10 years which hang in the district headquarters. During the April 15 reception the foundation will also announce the winner of its annual \$1,000 art scholarship – going to a senior pursuing visual arts after graduation. Applications for the foundation scholarship are due Feb. 28, 2008, and the [application form](#) is available on the foundation Web site.

The school year ends with elementary students' artwork on display from April 28 through May 27, 2008.

Squeezed in among these four art shows, the district is hosting a fifth regional high school art show by hosting the Educational Service District 189 art show for the first time this year. This juried show brings together area high school artists and will be on display at the educational service center from March 10 through March 21, 2008. Winning pieces from this show will advance to the state's 35th Annual OSPI High School Art Show in April.

"Staff members and the community look forward each year to having the foyer become a free, public gallery," said Superintendent Whitehead. "We begin the art season with a smorgasbord selection of work from elementary through high school students and end the season with our very youngest artists – giving us a peek into what future shows will bring. I am especially pleased to be adding a regional show to the calendar, giving even more young artists a showing right here in Everett. I never cease to be amazed and impressed by the variety of talent our students possess and of the support and encouragement given them by teachers at every grade level."

Each show is open to the public free of charge at the educational service center at 4730 Colby Ave. in Everett from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during business hours, Monday through Friday.