

Each year my office conducts a 12th Congressional District art competition for high school students to select the one piece of student art from the district that will be displayed for one year in a prominent place in the United States Capitol complex and to recognize the important role that art plays in our daily lives and in education. This year the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African American Arts + Culture is hosting the competition and reception at which the winner will be announced on Friday, May 4, 2012. For more information about the art competition, [click here](#)

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As in previous years, there will be a panel discussion before the reception about the importance of art to education, revitalization and economic growth. This year's panel discussion will focus on the extensive collaboration involved in developing Levine Center for the Arts and how efforts such as this serve as an impetus to academic, social, economic and sustainable development and to public engagement in a community. I would be extremely pleased if your schedule will allow you to attend this event. A flyer with detailed information is linked below. You are also invited to stay after the discussion to enjoy the reception and view the outstanding work of student artists who have competed in this year's 12th District art competition.

Please contact Barbara Carter at 704-344-9950 or barbara.carter@mail.house.gov if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you on May 4.

[Discussion: The Importance of Art to Education, Revitalization and Economic Growth](#)