



Council for Art Education, Inc.

Sponsor of Youth Art Month

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NATIONAL YOUTH ART MONTH FLAG EVENT CEREMONY HELD IN NATION'S CAPITOL

For Immediate Release

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On Thursday, March 25, 2010, The Council for Art Education, Inc. (CFAE) held its 24th annual flag-raising ceremony in celebration of National Youth Art Month. The event, “School Flags Across the U.S.....Flying High” was held at the Library of Congress Members Room, Thomas Jefferson Building. This event is held each year to honor the artistic talents of the students who designed their state’s Youth Art Month Flag. In celebration of Youth Art Month 2010, State YAM Chairpersons across the country held student flag design programs, selecting a theme representative of the individual state and the creative spirit of Youth Art Month (YAM). A design was selected from each participating state and made into a flag. This year flags from 38 states were submitted – the most ever to date! The Council is thrilled to have had a record number of student flag designers make the trip to Washington this year to attend this special ceremony, where all of the 2010 YAM Flags were unveiled. A record number of attendees were also on hand at this year’s event to pay tribute to the artistic student flag designers, including their families, art educators, state YAM chairpersons, U.S. legislators and art industry representatives. States participating in this year’s YAM flag program were: **Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky,**

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Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Deborah Fanning, Executive Vice President of CFAE and of The Art & Creative Materials Institute, Inc. (ACMI), which founded YAM in 1961, emceed the ceremony. Mrs. Fanning addressed the students and congratulated them on all of their efforts and applauded the parents and teachers for helping the students express their artistic talents. Following opening remarks, Mrs. Fanning presented each student flag designer with an award certificate. In addition, each student flag designer will receive gifts of art materials donated by numerous art material manufacturers. **CFAE's 2010 in-kind donors and financial contributors were also recognized at the ceremony. These sponsors include:**

AMERICAN ART CLAY COMPNAY

ART & CREATIVE MATERIALS INSTITUTE, INC.

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Following the National YAM Flag Event ceremony in Washington, DC, the flags were on display in the Youth Art Month Museum which was held in the exhibit area during the National Art Education Association (NAEA) convention in Baltimore, MD. The YAM flags were viewed by thousands of national and international art educators and will soon be returned to each of their states.

What is Youth Art Month? Founded in 1961 by ACMI, a non-profit association of art and creative materials manufacturers, YAM is an advocacy program to promote the value of art and quality art education. Each year during the month of March, special events are held at the local, state and national levels throughout the U.S. to increase understanding and recognition of the importance of art and art education to our children and our future. Although YAM emphasizes the visual arts, more of the states are not only celebrating visual art but also the performing arts during their Youth Art Month

activities in order to maximize their exposure and to get increased funding. Art is an important part of learning and plays a critical role in shaping the lives of our future leaders, our children. The National YAM theme, “Art Shapes the World” was taken from this concept.

For more information on the flag ceremony and/or Youth Art Month in general, please contact Debbie Munroe, National Youth Art Month Coordinator, at The Council for Art Education, Inc., 1280 Main St., P.O. Box 479, Hanson, MA 02341, Telephone: (781) 293-4100, Fax: (781) 294-0808, E-mail: debbiem@acminet.org

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