Annual Collegiate Artists Competition

The Illinois Board of Higher Education, in partnership with the Governor Rod R. Blagojevich, the Capital Development Board, Illinois public and private colleges and universities, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities will sponsor a statewide juried art competition for undergraduate students at Illinois public and private, two and four-year institutions of higher education. The competition will showcase the talent and reward the efforts of art students at Illinois colleges and universities with an exhibition at the University Galleries at Illinois State University and monetary awards.

Overview

• The first competition will culminate with an exhibition and awards ceremony at Illinois State University May 4-July 3, 2004 and thereafter will rotate among the 2 and 4-year public and private higher education institutions.

• The juried competition is open to undergraduate students taking a minimum of six credit hours at any Illinois public or private, 2 or 4-year institution of higher education.

• Students will compete in eight different media—painting, drawing, prints, fiber, photography, sculpture, ceramics/glass, and kinetic/electronic media.

• Institutions will be divided into four judging divisions based on total enrollments—four-year large (over 5,000) and small (under 5,000) institutions, and two-year large and small institutions.

• A call for entries will be sent to all colleges and universities for students to submit slides of their work. There is NO limit to the number of participants from an institution.

• Students may submit up to three entries, all in the same category. Students must submit slides of their original artwork completed in the past year for judging by April 2, 2004. The slides and entry forms must be sent to the:
  Annual Collegiate Arts Competition
  Illinois Board of Higher Education
  431 E. Adams Street, Second Floor
  Springfield, IL  62701-1418

• Michael Dunbar, Coordinator of the Art in Architecture Program at the Capital Development Board and a respected sculptor, will jury the competition, selecting finalists for each division and category. Finalists will send their artwork to the Illinois State University Galleries. Finalists will compete for special awards, including purchase awards, from the Governor, Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities.

• A reception and awards ceremony to honor finalists will be held during the first week of the exhibit at Illinois State University.
Awards

- All finalists will receive a $250 award.

- The competition juror also will award special prizes, including:
  - $1,000  Governor’s Medallion of Excellence
  - $1,000  Illinois Board of Higher Education Prize
  - $1,000  Illinois Community College Board Prize
  - $1,000  Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities Prize

Budget/Fund raising

- The estimated first-year total budget is $30,000, including operational expenses and awards to student artists.

- College and university foundations are donating funds to support the project. The Board of Higher Education will establish a Committee to Advance Art to assist in fund-raising for the competition. The committee will include foundation/development directors, arts faculty and deans, and others from institutions, community members, and agency staff.

IBHE contacts:
Don Sevener        Debbie Meisner-Bertauski
sevener@ibhe.org   meisner-bertauski@ibhe.org
(217) 557-7334     (217) 557-7357