

First-Place Winner's Artwork Will Be Showcased in U.S. Capitol

SCOTTSDALE - Artwork by Holly Gildar of Desert Mountain High School will be displayed in the corridors of the U.S. Capitol, U.S. Rep. Harry Mitchell announced today. Gildar's entry, entitled "Chase Kelley," earned first place in the 2009 Congressional Art Competition for Arizona's Fifth District. Gildar will be invited to Washington, D.C. to participate in a reception honoring Congressional Art Competition winners from across the country as their artwork is unveiled in the U.S. Capitol.

Mitchell announced the winners at his Congress on Your Corner which was held today at the Arizona Historical Society Museum in Tempe. All Arizona Fifth District entries will be displayed through April 21 at the museum, located at 1300 N. College Avenue.

"I am always impressed by the incredible artwork and amazing talent of Arizona's students," Mitchell said. "As a former teacher I am proud to see our students participating in this contest and I'm looking forward to having these pieces of art in the Capitol, as well as in my Washington and Scottsdale offices."

Desert Mountain High School students also won second and third places in the competition. Helmüt Hammen earned second place with his piece entitled "Existence" which will be on display in Mitchell's Washington, D.C. office. Hye Won Yoon won third place with her entry entitled "Connection" and will be on display in Mitchell's Scottsdale office.

Honorable Mention winners include "Rebs" by Reb Hui of Chaparral High School, and "Mechanical Heart" by Warren Stoneburner of Chaparral High School.

Award of Excellence winners include "Self Portrait" by Alexis Raynak of Desert Mountain High School, "Heart held at Gun-Point" by Zoe Vidgoff of Chaparral High School, and "Shadow of Fear" by Hannah Sheets of Pinnacle High School.

The winners were selected by members of the Tempe Artist Guild from 56 total entries.