



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 11, 2014

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National Arts Program holds 23rd annual awards ceremony

Local artists being recognized for works on exhibit at Capital Community College

HARTFORD—Close to 350 area artists of all ages and walks of life have submitted original art works now being displayed at Capital Community College as part of Community Renewal Team's National Arts Program. On Saturday, Jan. 25, these works of art will be judged and the artists awarded top prizes in an awards program and reception starting at 1 p.m. CCC's art gallery opens at noon and admission is free.

The awards ceremony will be a performance in and of itself, with concert pianist and composer Gabe Zucker playing piano and live poetry readings by The Free Poets Collective that reflect each winning art piece. All forms of visual arts are represented, from installations to paintings to sculpture, in one of the largest community arts events in the region.

First, second and third prizes will be awarded in each of the adult categories of Amateur, Intermediate and Professional. First prizes are worth \$300, second prizes are \$200 and third prizes are \$100 each.

First, second and third prizes also will be awarded in Youth (12 and under) and Teen (13-18) categories. First prize is \$75, second is \$50 and third is \$25. An overall best of show prize of \$300 also will be awarded.

Each artist receives a Certificate of Participation in the National Arts Program. Free, public gallery showings will be held Jan. 21 – Feb. 9, 2014, at Capital Community College, from 7 a.m. – 10 p.m., Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Saturdays.

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Community Renewal Team, Inc. is the designated Community Action Agency for Middlesex and Hartford Counties and is the largest non-profit provider of human services in Connecticut. The agency's mission is Preparing Our Community to Meet Life's Challenges. The mission is achieved each day by helping people and families become self-sufficient while making sure basic needs are met. CRT's programs include Head Start, Meals on Wheels, energy assistance, supportive housing and shelters, and many others, serving people in more than 60 cities and towns in both our core catchment area and throughout Connecticut. www.crtct.org