

Carmel Arts Council

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Media Advisory

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Carmel Arts Council – June 2015

WHEN: July 1, 2015

WHERE: Carmel Arts Council's Children's Art Gallery

WHAT: *Big Bad World: Conquering the Fears of a Modern Society*

An exhibition featuring works by Carmel High School students will open in the Carmel Arts Council's Children's Art Gallery, 40 West Main Street in downtown Carmel on July 1, 2015. These works will focus on the themes of fear and conquering fear through a presentation that will demonstrate that fear exists within modern society but can be conquered by the strength of the human spirit.

This exhibit is especially unique because Carmel High School students, Ethan McAndrews and Ally Russell, will act as its curators. These two students have worked tirelessly to not only conceive the theme of the exhibit, but to portray this theme through the artwork they have selected. Under the tutelage of IMA curator, Harriet Warkel, Ethan and Ally have learned what is expected of a curator. With this experience they may choose to pursue a career as professional curators. In addition to students curating this show, the artistic talents of Carmel High School students will be on display in the manner of a professional art gallery in order to create an art exhibit entirely designed by students for the community.

The theme of fear will begin the exhibit, but, as the viewer moves through the pieces they will grow more optimistic by demonstrating the resilience of the human spirit. In addition, the curators plan to create an interactive component through a program called Aurasma which will allow the views to use their electronic devices to view a short video describing a work of art and further explain its significance to the theme of the exhibit.

The Carmel Arts Council is pleased to offer this student-driven art exhibit through their Emerging Curator Program. The program, initiated in 2014, gives qualified high school students an opportunity to investigate career paths in the fields of art and museum gallery curation and it allows high school art students a chance to compete for gallery space in an art exhibition.

A festive "opening night" reception for *Big Bad World: Conquering Fears of a Modern Society* is being planned by the Carmel Arts Council in their gallery on July 1st from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

The CAC curators will plan to speak about their exhibit and introduce the artists. Music will be provided by the Carmel Arts Council's High School Division. Refreshments will be served.

The exhibition will open for the summer on July 2nd and continue through August 30th. The CAC's Children's Art Gallery hours for the summer will be every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 2pm until 4pm, Friday and Saturday evenings from 6pm until 8pm and during the Gallery Walks in the Arts and Design District from 5pm until 9pm.

WHO: The Carmel Arts Council is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to encourage and promote the Arts for all ages through leadership and volunteer support in order to nourish a vibrant culture in the Carmel community. Our membership is open to all those interested in supporting the CAC's mission.

The Emerging Curator Program is only one of the many programs the CAC offers to the community. During the school year the CAC features art, in its Children's Art Gallery, from all levels of the Carmel-Clay School system. Additionally, the CAC exhibits student art from the Carmel sister city organizations of Japan and China. The CAC also opens their gallery to local organizations for special student-driven art exhibits.

Our community benefits greatly from the beautiful murals the Carmel Arts Council's High School Division creates and paints on the outside walls of several businesses in and around the Arts and Design District.

The CAC awards scholarships in the Arts to qualified high school graduating seniors and hosts the "Young Performers Showcase" which is a juried event showcasing the musical and performing talents of school age children.

The CAC participates in many community activities such as the Carmel Arts Council and the Mayor's Youth Council's Pumpkin Festival, the Carmel International Arts Festival, Holiday on the Square, Paint Out and at all Gallery Walks in the Arts and Design District.