



STATE OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF GENERAL SERVICES

Heather Groll - Public Affairs Office
(518) 474-5987
heather.groll@ogs.state.ny.us
<http://www.ogs.state.ny.us>

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Exhibit To Feature Student Artwork Inspired By Plaza Art Collection
Hundreds of children display their work at the Empire State Plaza

New York State Office of General Services (OGS) today announced that students in grades kindergarten through eight, from eight capital region school districts are exhibiting original artwork inspired by the Empire State Plaza Art Collection. The exhibit, held in conjunction with National Youth Art Month, features pieces created by students from Bethlehem, Burnt Hills, Guilderland, Ichabod Crane, Mohonasen, Schenectady, Shaker/North Colonie, and Shenendehowa school districts. Artwork will be on display from March 8 - 14 on the South Concourse of the Empire State Plaza.

In September, the Empire State Plaza Art Commission began to collaborate with the Capital Area Art Supervisors Group to use the paintings and sculptures that are part of the Plaza Art Collection in their classrooms. Special presentations and educational resources introduced the collection into the curriculum of elementary and middle school children. Students were invited to explore and create their own works of art in response to the Plaza Art Collection. As a result, students produced nearly 400 colorful paintings and drawings.

The Empire State Plaza Art Collection consists of 92 modern art paintings, sculptures and tapestries that were purchased in the late 1960's – early 70's including works from Alexander Calder, Franz Kline, Joan Mitchell and Mark Rothko. In all, 82 artists who were working in New York at the time the collection was acquired are represented. The items in the collection were purchased with state funds during construction of the Empire State Plaza following recommendations from the Empire State Plaza Art Commission to Governor Nelson Rockefeller.

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