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Morgan Arts Council – Berkeley Springs, WV
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YOUTH ART EXHIBIT OPENS MARCH 2

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV--The Morgan Arts Council and Morgan County schools celebrate National Youth Art Month with the 20th annual exhibit of artwork created by local youth, showing at the Ice House in Berkeley Springs. Also part of the month's activities is a children's art workshop.

The opening extravaganza on Friday, March 2, features musical and dance performances as well as hundreds of pieces of visual art. The Youth Art exhibit fills the Ice House with two- and three-dimensional works made by students in every Morgan County school and homeschoolers. Hiroko Rubin is the curator.

Refreshments will be served at the opening reception, which begins at 7 p.m.; the performances start at 7:15 p.m.

The extravaganza, emceed by Leslie Devine- Milbourne of Wind Dance Farm and Earth Education Center, will feature entertainment by piano students of Erin Belcher, a yoga demonstration led by Hiroko Rubin, a dance demonstration led by Jennifer Carpenter-Peak, and a *Lord of the Flies* performance led by Tom Brooks. Students of Wind Dance Farm will perform a Cranky Show. Also featured are students from Black Cat Music Studio and students of Pat Springer.

The art show comprises a wide range of media, from ceramics and collages to prints, paintings and weavings. Included are works by -----

Visual art teachers will be recognized for their help in organizing the students' artwork. The teachers' participation is essential and deeply appreciated.

Packets of postcards featuring two images of artwork from each school are on sale for \$10. Proceeds support ongoing youth arts initiatives.

"The outpouring of creativity in this annual show is always exciting. Having arts in the schools is essential to helping children develop fully. MAC is proud to have been providing youth art programs in and out of school for over 40 years. This show represents the future of art. We encourage everyone to come show their support for our young artists," says Thom Rubel, MAC Executive Director.

The Youth Art Show may be seen every Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., through April 8.

On Saturday, March 3, Hiroko Rubin will teach children ages 5 and up to turn trash into treasure by making paper-bead jewelry from magazine scraps. The one-hour workshop is held at the Ice House, with two sessions available, starting at 11 a.m. or 12:30 p.m. There is no charge for the class, but parents are asked to preregister their children by calling 304-258-2300.

Grant support for these programs comes in part from individual donors, the National Endowment for the Arts, the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and local hotel/motel taxes. The Ice House is at the corner of Independence and Mercer Streets in downtown Berkeley Springs, WV. For more information on this and other MAC activities, call 304-258-2300 or visit www.macicehouse.org.