

Washington D.C. - Congressman Kevin McCarthy will honor participants and winners of the 26th Annual "An Artistic Discovery" Congressional Art Competition for high school students at a reception Saturday, May 12, 2007, 11:00 a.m -12:00 p.m. at the Bakersfield Museum of Art located at 1930 R Street in Bakersfield.

The overall winner's artwork will be displayed in the corridor leading to the U.S. Capitol. Airline tickets for the winner and two guests will be provided courtesy of Southwest Airlines to fly to Washington, D.C. in June to attend the exhibit opening of "An Artistic Discovery." Awards will be given to those who place first, second and third in the following three categories: photography, computer generated art, and all other mediums. In addition the first through third place winners will have the option of displaying their artwork in Congressman's Washington office for a period of one year.

"I am impressed with the talent of the young artists in the 22nd Congressional District," McCarthy said. "I invite the community to come out and join me in honoring their achievements."

The artwork was judged by professionals in the artistic community including: Jeanette Richardson, Director of the Arts Council of Kern in Bakersfield; Gita Lloyd, local artist in Bakersfield; and Casey Christie, Photojournalist for the Bakersfield Californian.