

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Amash announces winners of art competition**

*Pieces to be displayed in U.S. Capitol and Amash's congressional offices*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Rep. Justin Amash (R-Mich.) announced the winners of ArtFest 2016, the Congressional Art Competition for Michigan's Third District, at an awards ceremony at the Grand Rapids Art Museum on Saturday, April 30.

Mick Rutowski's piece, *Recollection*, was named the grand prize winner and will be on display in the U.S. Capitol for one year alongside winners from other congressional districts. *Escape* by Parker Wonser (Caledonia High School) and *Land Yacht* by Rachel Smith (Hastings High School) were the Representative's Choice winners and will be displayed for one year in Amash's congressional offices.

Rutowski, a student at Northview High School, will visit Washington, DC, this June for a reception honoring the winners. Pieces from Yantong (Simon) Li (South Christian High School), Gavin Weir (Rockford High School), Faith Rietema (Kent Career Technical Center), Nick Ensing (Northview High School), Jalexia Stoutmyre (Ottawa Hills High School), Amber Valk (Caledonia High School), Jenny Pham (East Kentwood High School), and Nick Anzivino (Caledonia High School) were named honorable mentions.

The Grand Rapids Art Museum, Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University, Kent Intermediate School District, Lake Michigan Credit Union, Portland Community Arts Council, Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, ArtPrize, Kellogg Community College Art Department, and the School News Network were sponsors and participated in the judging committee.

The Congressional Institute sponsors the Congressional Art Competition in cooperation with the U.S. House of Representatives. The annual competition is open to high school students in participating congressional districts. More than 650,000 students have participated in the competition since it began in 1982.

A copy of the grand prize winning piece is attached to this release.

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