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**Maryland's Youth Become Tomorrow's Artists at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture**

- *Museum Hosts Its First Juried High School Art Exhibition*

**January 21, 2009 - Baltimore, MD**—How would it feel for a high school student to have their art shown at a major metropolitan museum? Twenty Maryland students from Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford, Howard, Prince Georges and Wicomico counties will experience that feeling at the **2009 Maryland Statewide High School Juried Art Exhibition from January 24 to February 9 at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture**. These twenty students will be honored at the exhibition's invitation-only **Opening Reception** on January 24, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the museum.

High school students from across the state competed in the museum's first juried art exhibition for Maryland's youth. The young artists were asked to submit work that portrayed courage in their community. This year's theme was inspired by the museum's current exhibition, *Courage: The Vision to End Segregation, the Guts to Fight for It* (Created by Levine Museum of the New South, Charlotte North Carolina and made possible by a generous grant from Bank of America).

The reception will feature an awards presentation to the following student winners:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner – Johnetta Queen, Suitland High School, Prince George's County
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner – Bo Mi Yoon, Centennial High School, Howard County
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner – Mel Noyes, South River High School, Anne Arundel County
- Honorable Mention – Colleen Billings-Fallston High School, Harford County

The top three winners will also be featured in the museum's publication, *Journeys*, as well as on the cover page of Maryland State Teachers Association's brochure for the Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Program Celebration. In addition, the Maryland State Teachers Association in partnership with the high school regional art exhibition, will exhibit the students' art work at their headquarters from February 16 to March 16, 2009.

*The Reginald F. Lewis Museum is Baltimore's premier facility highlighting the history and accomplishments of African Americans with a special focus on Maryland's African American community. The Museum is the East Coast's largest African American museum occupying an 82,000 square-foot facility with ample permanent and special exhibition space, interactive learning environments, auditorium, resource center, oral history recording studio, museum shop, café, classrooms, meeting rooms, outside terrace and reception areas. The museum is located near Baltimore's Inner Harbor at the corner of Pratt and President Streets. For more information, please call 443-263-1800 or visit the museum's website at [www.AfricanAmericanCulture.org](http://www.AfricanAmericanCulture.org)*

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