

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 2, 2009**

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SPOTLIGHT ON YOUNG ARTISTS DURING ANNUAL  
HIGH SCHOOL FINE ARTS COMPETITION

(Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah) The Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery will spotlight the talents of 32 high school students from the state of Utah during the 2009 *High School Fine Arts Competition*. This exhibit will open with a reception on Thursday, September 10 at 7 p.m. in the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery and will remain through October 10. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 7 p.m. and admission is free and open to the public.

These students will display artwork in a wide array of media including mono-print, color pencil, graphite, photography, watercolor, acrylic and metal. This year's theme, "O for a Muse", taken from William Shakespeare's play, "*Henry V*" asked students to use their personal inspirations to create their submissions. Selected pieces came from either an existing portfolio or the student created a new work to fit the theme. Of 125 entries, 36 pieces were selected by eight professional artists.

This is the second year that the annual Fine Arts Competition has partnered with the Utah Shakespearean Festival. Cash awards, special recognitions and potential scholarships for the *High School Fine Arts Competition* and the High School Shakespeare

Competition will be presented at the evening awards ceremony on Saturday, October 10 at 7 p.m. in the Centrum Arena at Southern Utah University.

High School Shakespeare Competition, now in its thirty-first year, invites students from Utah, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada and California to present their knowledge of Shakespeare. The competition provides opportunities for education and recognition in: acting, dance/choreography, technical theatre, fine arts and now in music. All students are judged by professionals who give criticism and advice to these emerging artists.

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### **ABOUT THE COLLEGE**

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree.

More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year.

The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespearean Festival, the performance group Acclamation, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the college of about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at [cpvamktg@suu.edu](mailto:cpvamktg@suu.edu).

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