

# Kids show off their Visual Voices

at the Brush Art Gallery in Lowell last weekend



Charlotte Lee, 6, of the Lincoln School, shows off her third prize ribbon.



David, 9, and Abigail Savoie, 7, of the Morey School, look at other students' artwork.

Regis Lach, 6, of the Lincoln School.



Seven-year-old Elizabeth Tighe of the Riley School (her artwork is upper left).



First place fourth grade winner from the Washington School Evaughn Yulfo, 11.

## Young talent is already in bloom

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LOWELL -- Art is alive and well and thriving in Lowell. But it's not only the city's thriving studios, museums and galleries that are bursting with artistic energy. It's blooming in the city's schools, as well, where young artists develop their talents and techniques under the guidance of devoted teachers.

Opening Sunday and running for the next month, art lovers are invited and encouraged to see this burgeoning talent at Visual Voices IV, three separate exhibitions of art by Lowell students.

Primary Colors, featuring works by elementary school students, is on at the Brush Gallery and Studios, 256 Market St. The ALL Arts Gallery, 246 Market St., hosts Secondary Colors, works by middle school students. And at the Whistler House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen St., it's Full Spectrum, an exhibit of artwork by Lowell High Students.

The biennial exhibit that originally started at the Brush has now grown to the three venues. It showcases works by 250 visual artists across the grade spectrum, said Lolita Demers, a teacher at the Morey and a Lowell artist who curates and coordinates the exhibitions along with a small committee.

Over 30 art teachers from the city's public schools, as well as the Hellenic American Academy, Franco-American School, Immaculate Conception School, Lighthouse School of Art and Lowell Middlesex Charter School select seven pieces from their students' best work. The works are matted and framed, then professionally hung.

"It is very satisfying to see students I had in middle school now shining in high school," said Demers.

One of those students is LHS student Michael Sam, whose print "Paris" appears on the exhibition post card.

"I'm honored and happy that again my artwork gets to be in the show and featured on the post card," he said.

Of his work, he noted, "Because I am an aspiring designer, fashion always manages to creep its way into my artwork, whether it be a simple gesture drawing in my sketchbook or a multi-layer print being shown in a gallery," he said.

Opening receptions are planned on Saturday, March 6, at the three venues between 1-4 p.m. and will include performances by school musical groups. The exhibits run through March 27.