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For more information:
Laura C. Lieberman,
770/949-2787

WINNERS CELEBRATED **Annual Holiday Card Competition at the Cultural Arts Center**

Douglasville, Georgia – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County presents more than 60 holiday card designs created by elementary, middle and high school students from over 10 Douglas County Schools in its annual competition. There will be an opening reception on Thursday, December 8th, from 5 until 6:30 p.m. for participating students, teachers and their families. Former Douglas County Schools music specialist and current music teacher with the Cultural Arts Council, Nancy Whittenburger will play Christmas carols and seasonal music on the piano during the festivities. This event is free and open to the general public. The Annual Holiday Card Competition and the Festival of Trees is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Douglas County.

The designs of students from Mason Creek Elementary, Chapel Hill Elementary School, Mason Creek Middle School and New Manchester High School were selected to be reproduced as holiday cards this year. The winners of the annual holiday card competition are: Halle Cochran (1st grade, Mason Creek Elementary; Ms. Gunnell, art teacher); Betsy Barron (5th grade, Chapel Hill Elementary; Ms. Allen, art teacher); Shelby Walker (8th grade, Mason Creek Middle School; Mr. Overton, art teacher); and Kimberly Chamorro (11th grade, New Manchester High School; Ms. Houlihan and Ms. Adams, art teacher). Their prize-winning printed cards are available for sale at the Cultural Arts Center.

“We are delighted with the quality of the designs entered this year, and it was very hard to pick only four artworks to be printed as our winners,” commented Allen Culpepper, Chair of the CAC Gallery Committee. “In fact, we want everyone to know that every student in this show is a winner – they were selected to represent their schools, and they should be very proud of themselves. We sure are proud of them!”

The mission of the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is to nurture, guide and stimulate the enjoyment of and participation in the arts among Douglas County residents by providing an atmosphere conducive to the arts, broadening the spectrum of quality exhibits and performances available to the community, and fostering individual interactions with the arts through a wide range of satellite groups. The Cultural Arts Council and its exhibitions at the Cultural Arts Center are supported in part by the City of Douglasville, the Douglas County Commission, and the Georgia Council for the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

Photos available upon request.

THE CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL OF DOUGLASVILLE/DOUGLAS COUNTY

8652 Campbellton Street
Douglasville, Georgia 30134
Phone 770/949-2787 Fax 770-949-5788
www.artsdouglas.org

