

Washington, DC — Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) announced today that he is soliciting entries for the 24th Annual Congressional Art Competition for high school students. This competition provides students a unique opportunity to showcase their artistic talent at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. The winning student's art will be displayed in the Capitol, and the student will be invited to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The Congressional Art Competition was first launched in 1982. Since then, thousands of contests have been conducted around the country, involving more than 650,000 high school students. Each Member of Congress sponsors a local art competition in their Congressional District and selects one winning entry. The winning piece of art from each District is displayed in the Capitol for one year.

The competition begins immediately, and all entries must be submitted no later than Monday, May 7th, 2004. Entrants must be high school students from the Third Congressional District of Oregon. Letters soliciting artwork were sent to all high schools in the District last month. To participate, each student must fill out an application and follow guidelines set by the U. S. House of Representatives. The winner will be announced on May 14th, 2004. The winning student will receive an invitation to attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new display in the U.S. Capitol Building, on July 13th, 2004 and two round-trip airline tickets to Washington, DC courtesy of Southwest Airlines.