

Welcome New Teachers

The Wyoming Secondary Art Educators welcomes you to the annual State Art Symposium. Our organization is proud to provide the state with an opportunity to exhibit view the vast array of creativity in both two and three-dimensional art work by high school students in Wyoming.

If you are new to your school, and your group has been attending in the past, or if you are interested in beginning to attend, this letter is intended to acquaint you with the Symposium. The Symposium is held each year at the Casper Events Center, a location central to the state and large enough to display the over 5000 pieces of student artwork. Students arrive on the Thursday of the symposium and begin hanging their work at noon – the space is first come first serve. Work must be in place by 5:00 that Thursday. Teachers should come to the registration table to register and receive information. There is a page in this booklet with registration costs and procedures.

The high school teachers judge the work, but of course not the work from their own school. If you would like to participate in the judging process, you will sign up at the registration table for a judging shift. When not judging, you will assist with the Thursday evening activities that are outlined in the symposium book. The activities take place at the Events Center while the work is being judged. No students are allowed on the exhibit floor at that time. Assisting is just a matter of making sure that the activities are orderly and students are occupied.

On Friday, the events center is open to the students and to the public for viewing. Plan on spending quite a bit of time looking at the work – some of the teachers use the exhibit as a time to discuss art and/or perhaps an extended class assignment. Student will be voting for the Student choice Award in 2-D and 3-D, there are scholarship interviews as well as college representatives on hand. The Quick Draw contest is great fun for the participants as well as the audience (see description in the book). Friday night is the banquet and dance. Awards are

presented for the Thursday night competitions and scholarships as well as Congressional Awards. The dance is held right after the banquet and students must have a chaperone present.

Another aspect of our symposium is the art raffle and silent auction which features donated art work by high school art teachers. Included in this packet are the raffle tickets, and the money collected goes toward our scholarship fund. WSAE offers a number of scholarships to high school seniors and they are described in this packet. The raffle and silent auction take place on Saturday morning. Schools and teachers are encouraged to participate in this money-making activity.

The exhibit stays open to the public Saturday morning until noon. One of the basic policies of the symposium is to leave the exhibit up and intact until noon. Schools will not be permitted to take the art work down before that time for any reason.

Wyoming is so sparsely populated that the art teachers are few and far between. The symposium is a great time to get together with other art teachers for some networking, to get acquainted with the college art departments, and to see a terrific exhibit. We welcome you to our festive, artful gathering as a guest or as a participant. If you have questions, please feel free to contact any one of the officers listed in the Symposium booklet.