

For Immediate Release
Dec 3, 2009

Contact: Collin Nash
(516) 869 7794

Entries in Town of North Hempstead Recycled Art Contest to be on Exhibit at Great Neck Arts Center Through January

North Hempstead, NY—That nine of the Town's eleven school districts now participate in North Hempstead's comprehensive recycling program speaks volumes about the incredible success of Supervisor Jon Kaiman's brainchild.

Now, following in the wake of that success, North Hempstead's 2009 Recycled Artwork Contest is turning heads and promises to establish itself as a mainstay in the Town's burgeoning visual arts world.

"We pledged to focus more on the arts, to find more ways to invest in the arts, and based on the extraordinary entries surrounding us today, I think this is as good a vehicle as any," Supervisor Kaiman told members of North Hempstead's Arts Advisory Committee during a breakfast meeting at the Solid Waste Authority.

Awed by the creativity and ingenious use of recycled materials in the 75 works submitted from close to 200 students, the eight judges—all members of the newly-formed Arts Advisory Committee—struggled long and hard to choose the 16 winning entries from four grade groups, K-2, 3-5, middle school and high school.

The entries were judged in four categories: first place overall, best use of recycled materials, best environmental message and creativity.

"All the entries were very creative, some above and beyond," said Sharon Maier-Kennelly, a member of the Advisory Committee and the executive director of Landmark on Main Street in Port Washington. "The competition is a wonderful idea," she said. "Hopefully it will instill in the students the idea of environmental consciousness."

All 75 entries will be displayed Dec. 9 through Jan. 11 at The Great Neck Arts Center, 113 Middle Neck Rd., Great Neck.

"I was overwhelmed with the students' awareness and passion for preserving the environment and how they integrated that into such spectacular artwork," said Frances B. Reid, North Hempstead's Director of Environmental Planning

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