



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The 2013 Best of Gage Student Exhibition, Awards & Sale

The annual celebration of student excellence returns for a 21st year

SEATTLE, WA – May 16, 2013 – Gage Academy of Art students celebrate a year filled with artistic discovery and intensive study at the 21st annual Best of Gage Student Exhibition, Awards & Sale on Friday, June 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Join the celebration as students, artists and art enthusiasts alike peruse more than 200 works representing diverse media, subjects, and individual styles. The 2013 Best of Gage features wine and hors d'oeuvres, and music by local folk group Tinker's Dram. The event is open to the public, free of charge.

The public is also invited to preview and purchase artwork from the Best of Gage, by attending the annual Vernissage on June 14 from 5:00-6:00pm. For a ticket price of just \$50, guests will have the opportunity to meet the artists and purchase artwork from Gage students, prior to the public opening at 6:00pm. Visit GageAcademy.org/bestofgage to purchase tickets, or call 206.323.4243, ext. 16.

This year's guest juror Beth Sellars, Curator and co-founder at Suyama Space in Seattle, will select the prestigious Best in Show prize and top entries in seven categories: abstract, beginner, figure, landscape, portrait, sculpture, and still life. First, Second and Third Place will be awarded in each category, and featured in a show in the Steele Gallery at Gage. Two additional prizes will be awarded in 2013: Best in Show and, new this year, Best Drawing; and event guests can participate by voting for their favorite piece to receive the People's Choice Award. The selected winners will receive prizes donated by area art stores totaling more than \$2,000.

The Best of Gage Exhibition will remain on display through July in the third floor gallery spaces at the Gage building on Capitol Hill. More details about the event and art sale are available at GageAcademy.org/bestofgage. Gage is located at 1501 10th Ave. E., on Capitol Hill next to St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle, WA.

The 2013 Best of Gage is sponsored by the Office of Arts & Culture, 4Culture, Artist & Craftsman, Blick Art Materials, Utrecht, Daniel Smith, Gamblin, Dakota Art, Baas Framing Studio, Bellevue Arts Museum, Framesmith, Museum Quality Framing, University Bookstore, and Watson Gupta Publications.

ABOUT GUEST CURATOR BETH SELLARS

Beth Sellars has served as a museum curator in the Pacific Northwest since 1975, most recently as curator of the City of Seattle's Portable Art Collection, where she manages the 3,000-plus artworks

that make the rounds of Seattle's publicly owned buildings. Sellars also serves as curator of Suyama Space, a gallery she co-founded in 1998. She has served on numerous regional and national jury panels, museum and arts organization boards and committees, and has lectured internationally. Under Sellars' stewardship, Suyama Space has featured artists of national and international reputation in site-specific formats, and is lauded as one of the Northwest's premier contemporary art spaces.

ABOUT GAGE ACADEMY OF ART

Gage Academy of Art is celebrating more than 20 years as a vibrant extended-learning and contemporary art center, providing community based artistic development for artists of all ages and abilities. Featuring year-round programs that engage and inspire, Gage is home to public art events, lectures, youth programming, and exhibitions. For more information, connect with Gage on Facebook and Twitter, or visit GageAcademy.org.

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