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Press Release

Representatives Tony Hwang and First Selectman Ken Flatto presented the awards at the Discovered Spirit artists' reception Sunday, March 20, 2011

Southport Galleries in Fairfield County was jumping on Sunday afternoon, March 20, 2011, as the youth participants of Covenant to Care for Children's Discovered Spirit Project were feted during the artists' reception in their honor. This reception marks the opening of an exhibit featuring the art masks created by the youth participants. During the reception four of the youth artists received awards for best in show.

Representatives Tony Hwang and Gary Holder-Winfield, First Selectman Ken Flatto, and Artist- Author Diann Cook were the judges for the Discovered Spirit Project. Hwang, Flatto presented the awards for the masks showing the greatest originality, presentation, and representation.

Caryl Hallberg, Executive Director of Covenant to Care for Children, stated, "Representative Hwang and all our judges are advocates for Connecticut's children and an enthusiastic supporters of the Covenant to Care for Children's Discovered Spirit Project. We are proud to have their participation."

This project is for children and youth with any experience in Connecticut's Department of Children and Families, the Foster Care system or the CCC Mentoring Program. The project is intended to give them a voice by encouraging self-expression through art. There is an array of outcomes with the children's masks from the whimsical to the evocative. While expressing themselves in this visual way, the children gain a sense of empowerment that can help them develop a positive self-image and improve their self-esteem.

The goal of the Discovered Spirit Project is to build broader awareness of Covenant to Care for Children and the children they serve, and to offer an opportunity at recognition and accomplishment to the children participating.

For Release 9 a.m. EST, March 21, 2011

The Discovered Spirit exhibit at Southport Galleries runs through Saturday, March 26, 2011 and will then move to the Capital Building Concourse in Hartford April 1, 2011 through April 15, 2011.

Southport Galleries is located at 330 Pequot Ave I Southport, www.southportgallery.com . For more information, please contact Covenant to Care for Children or visit the website at www.covenanttocare.org.



Julie Nearing; Rep. Tony Hwang; Katie; Anastasia; Caryl Hallberg, ED; Alexia; First Selectman Ken Flatto



Caryl Hallberg, ED; Anastasia; Rep. Tony Hwang; Alexia; Katie

More photos available at <http://cccdiscoveredspiritproject2011.shutterfly.com/>