



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Hellgate High School Art International Baccalaureate Program Exhibition

April 5-June 2, 2013

Artists' Reception: May 3, 5-8 PM

Artists' Gallery Talk: May 3, 7 PM

Missoula, MT / December 18, 2012 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) This exhibition features the wonderful artwork created by Hellgate High Senior Studio art students and art students involved in the newly formed International Baccalaureate program adopted by Hellgate High School and Missoula County School District. Hellgate High School is the second high school in the state to adopt this rigorous, challenging interdisciplinary program.

International Baccalaureate (IB) promotes the creative independence within students and connects this desire to the world through art. Students become artists using inquiry, research, and a little daring. They define their path, their art, and their responsibility to a wider community through a creative process. In short they make art that matters, at least to them and hopefully to society. The program requires discipline and desire in equal measure, seeking to abet creativity and professionalism, without forgetting the joy in art. Failure happens when striving for such lofty goals and straying into the dark corners of the unknown. Failure in some respects is regarded as a badge of honor, something to learn from, and a stepping stone to success. IB students know that if they do not fail once in a while, then they are not pushing their limits hard enough. These works represent our successes, but we remember the work that did not go so well, yet helped us learn.

Senior Studio will also accompany this show. This honors course draws its impetus from a slightly more individualistic philosophy. Students practice artistry true to their nature. Quality sets the bar while personal initiative clears it. ~ Courtney Christopher, IB art teacher

Contact: For more information, please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406.728.0447, visit the MAM website at www.missoulaartmuseum.org or contact Renee Taaffe, Education Curator, renee@missoulaartmuseum.org, 406.728.0447 x228.

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About MAM: FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. The Missoula Art Museum strives to engage artists and audience in the creative exploration of contemporary art relevant to our community, state and region. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM showcases diverse and thought-provoking contemporary artwork from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Tuesday- Friday, 10 AM - 5 PM, Saturday-Sunday, 12-5PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.