

## **Regional high school students claim SSCC Art Showcase honors**

The annual Appalachian Gateway Regional High School Art Showcase was held Feb. 28 on Southern State Community College's South Campus in Fincastle, with students in Southern State's region claiming honors for outstanding artistic talent.

"We are so very pleased to be able to offer this opportunity to young artists and to highlight the importance of divergent thinking and creative expression," said Jennifer Wenker, SSCC art instructor and showcase juror. "Creativity, innovation, and out-of-the-box thinking are critical skills for our young people as they enter adulthood in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Where much funding has gone to science and math), it is short-sighted to believe that real innovation can be achieved without inclusion and funding of programs that teach innovative and creative thinking.

"In this time of spending cuts, we gratefully acknowledge the forward thinking, hard work and scrappy resourcefulness of fine arts educators, boards of education and administrators for keeping and promoting the arts in their high schools."

### **ADAMS COUNTY**

In the Best of Schools category, Corey Cross of Peebles H.S. won Best of School for "Hand," and John Penn of Peebles H.S. won Reserve Best of School for "Reds."

In the Fiber Arts & Art Crafting category, John Penn of Peebles H.S. won second place for "Reds" (hand beading).





In the Sculpture category, honorable mention was awarded to Elayna Ward of Hillsboro H.S. for “Ellie” (collaged paper mache).

In the Pottery/Ceramic Arts category, Bridget Brooks of Hillsboro H.S. won first place for “Coil Pots” (glazed coil-built vessels), and Maddie Colliver of Hillsboro H.S. won second place for “Coil” (large coil-built vessel)

In the Oil & Acrylic Painting category, honorable mention was awarded to Marisa Hike of Greenfield McClain H.S. for “Masquerade” (oil on panel), Alissa Hauke of Hillsboro H.S. for “Still Life of My Life” (thinned acrylic on paper), and Ty Johnston of Lynchburg-Clay H.S. for “Birch Trees” (acrylic on panel)