

WASHINGTON, DC—Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (D-MD) last week welcomed the winner of the 2007 5th Congressional District Congressional Arts Competition, Waldorf resident Alex D'Amore, to the U.S. Capitol for the unveiling of the young student artist's winning entry, an oil painting titled "Boats at Night." Alex's painting will display in the corridors of the nation's Capitol for one year among the winning entries of each Member's district-wide contests, and on view for the many thousands of visitors who walk through the Capitol daily.

"Alex's painting was selected out of several strong submissions from all five counties in our district entered in the competition this year," Rep. Hoyer said. "Alex is an exceptional artist and an exceptional student, and I am proud that his impressive work of art will represent the 5th District here in the Capitol among the works of other talented young artists from around the country."

Alex, who just completed his senior year at St. Mary's Ryken High School, will attend the University of Maryland this fall. In addition to meeting with Rep. Hoyer, Alex participated in a full day of events recognizing competition winners from across the country and had the opportunity to meet with other similarly talented young artists also unveiling their works in the U.S. Capitol. Alex was joined by his parents, Valerie and Ken.

Through the annual Congressional Arts Competition, Members of Congress showcase the artistic talent of high school students within their districts. This spring, Congressman Hoyer sent letters to all of the high schools throughout Maryland's 5th District announcing the Congressional Arts Competition and outlining the rules for artwork submission. A selection panel comprised of members of the 5th District arts community, including art teachers and professional artists, reviewed each artwork before selecting Alex's piece to represent the 5th District.

"Every spring, Congress launches the effort to discover and celebrate talented young high school artists and their work through the Congressional Arts Competition," said Hoyer. "I am proud to sponsor this competition each year, which provides gifted young artists from around the 5th district with a valuable opportunity to showcase their talent and creativity on a national stage."

For more information on the Congressional Arts Competition, please call Congressman Hoyer's Waldorf District Office—301-843-1577.

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