

St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School

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Press Release

For Immediate Release:

May 5, 2011

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St. John the Baptist D.H.S. Artist Work Viewed at Heckscher Museum

WEST ISLIP, NY – One of the highly talented art students at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School, Brandon Hendrick, a senior from Centerport, was featured in the Fifteenth Annual Long Island's Best Young Artists '11, at the Heckscher Museum in Huntington. The exhibit was on display until May 1st.

This is a highly selective and prestigious juried exhibition featuring works of art created by Long Island high school students, inspired by works shown in the Heckscher Museum of Art during the 2010-2011 school year.

This comprehensive arts-in-education program integrates experiences in The Heckscher Museum and the art classroom, culminating with the presentation of students' original works juried by a museum professional.

Through close observation, discussion and hands-on activities, students learn to make connections between artwork on view in the Museum and their own creative experiences. Visual Thinking Strategies are utilized to develop students' visual literacy and written and oral communication skills, while encouraging them to explore their own artistic voices. Students select at least one work of art on view to "inspire" an original work of art that is in turn submitted for jurying.

This year, 83 art teachers from public and private schools in Nassau and Suffolk Counties submitted students' work for *Long Island's Best*. More than 300 student entries were received with only 78 selected for display in the galleries. An artist statement, written by each student to explain his or her thought process and artistic

journey from conception to completion, accompanies each work of art. Object labels also include an image of the work of art selected for inspiration.

Brandon's piece, entitled *Detail*, was inspired by the artist, Victor Muniz, and explores the concept of realities other than our own. The art of Victor Muniz is described as “Optically bewildering and unimpeachably detailed,

Victor's cellular drawings act like bodies of evidence” which holds true to Brandon’s piece, which is truly realistic.

About St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School

About St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School: 1,700 students attend St. John the Baptist DHS, a college preparatory Catholic High School located on the south shore in West Islip. As part of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, St. John’s offers a value-centered education that recognizes the unique talents and abilities of each child, while fostering a school environment that challenges students to reach their true potential. Open since 1966, St. John’s offers a rigorous curriculum and extensive activity and athletic programs. Students have the opportunity to take numerous Advanced Placement classes and 99% of St. John’s graduates continue on to higher education. For Mission Statement and additional information: www.sjbdhs.org

Photo Link for “Artwork”:



http://www.stjohnthebaptistdhs.net/www/drcny_stjohnthebaptistdhs/site/hosting/Press%20Releases/Artwork.JPG

Photo Caption “Artwork”: Brandon Hendrick’s piece, entitled *Detail*

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Photo Caption for “Artist”: Laura, Wolf, Art Teacher, Brandon Hendrick, Walter D. Lace, Principal

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