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Wednesday, December 3, 2008

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**Acadiana artist receives stellar honor**

By Patricia C. Ress Gazette Reporter  
[patty@acadianagazette.com](mailto:patty@acadianagazette.com)

Lafayette artist Amy Guidry has been selected as a participating artist for "Learn-Promote- Defend," an exhibit held by the Center for Civil and Human Rights. The exhibit will also be auctioning the artwork and sharing the proceeds with the artists and the CCHR.

This exhibit will be in conjunction with a 10-day program of events titled "60 Years of Progress ... 10 Days of Recognition" which commemorates the 60th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is designed to raise awareness of the declaration, the first international recognition that all human beings have fundamental rights and freedoms.



*'Everything's Coming Up Roses' by Amy Guidry*

The document, shepherded through its many versions by former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, continues to be a living and relevant document today.

This 10-day program/celebration will take place throughout the entire city of Atlanta and the exhibit and silent auction will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the Mason Murer Fine Art gallery.

Guidry's work was selected from numerous entries received by a panel of internationally recognized art professionals and curators in response to a call they issued.

Jurors are Sylvie Fortin, executive director and editor of Art Papers magazine; Christopher Hauck, Atlanta painter; Jodi Hauptman, curator of drawings for the Museum of Modern Art; and Louise E. Shaw, curator of the Global Health Odyssey Museum of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Guidry's paintings include "Choices," "Justice for All," "Void Where Prohibited" and "Everything's Coming Up Roses." All are from her social commentary series which was displayed at the Lafayette Art Association's gallery. Selections for the show were required to relate to the articles of the declaration.

"I was thrilled they asked me to participate," Guidry commented in a recent telephone interview. "In a juried competition there are always thousands of entries and it is difficult to get chosen. There are a lot of good artists competing and I didn't expect to get in.

"And being affiliated with a rights organization of this calibre is indeed an honor. It is a benefit that works both ways: it helps me get exposure as an artist, and I am helping expose and promote their ideas to the public.

"I took several social and political issues which I read about in the papers and tried to get people to think about them in a different way," she said of the inspiration for her social commentary series. "A painting can often grab someone's attention faster than just print and if they look at it, they will think about it and possibly want to get involved.

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