

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Edgewater Mall Hosts Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast  
2011 National Fine Arts Exhibit**

***Artwork completed by Club members will be on display for public viewing in December***

**Gulfport, MS** – Edgewater Mall in Biloxi is hosting an exhibit of youth art created under the direction of The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast, launching the first stage of a nationwide youth art competition. The exhibit, located by the Customer Service Desk and JCPenney, opens Monday, December 12 and will remain available for public viewing through Friday, December 16. Artwork created by these youth artists range from imaginative paintings to original drawings, showing their unbound creativity in their attempts for an opportunity to win local stardom.

As part of this nationwide initiative to identify talented youth artists, The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast has joined 4,300 Clubs across the country to provide an opportunity for children to compete in the National Fine Arts Exhibit Program in areas of creativity, artistic skill, and cultural enrichment. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast may submit members' artwork in four age divisions and ten categories, including watercolor, pastel, oil, acrylic and collage. Selected artwork from this local exhibit will be screened at the regional level, and a limited number will be sent to Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Atlanta headquarters for judging at the national level. 37 national winners will be named and their artwork displayed at special events throughout the year. Winning local youth artists will also receive an engraved plaque and letter of congratulations from BGCA President Roxanne Spillett. Regional finalists will receive a certificate of participation.

For additional information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast please contact 228-896-3770 or visit our website at [www.bgcgulfcoast.org](http://www.bgcgulfcoast.org).

**About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast**

In 2010, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast had approximately 2800 registered members and served 1500 youth through Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast New Hope Program, which is a school based therapeutic behavioral facilitation program. Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

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