



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Mississippi National River  
and Recreation Area

111 Kellogg Blvd. E., Ste  
105  
Saint Paul, MN 55101-1256

651-290-4160 phone  
651-290-3214 fax

---

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 15, 2006

For more information:  
Kathy Swenson, 651-290-3030, ext 303  
kathy\_swenson@nps.gov

### **Enjoy Winning Student River Art at North Mississippi Regional Park**

Stop by North Mississippi Regional Park and enjoy the winning student artwork of the Big River Art Contest. The winning artwork reflects months of learning about the Mississippi River for thousands of 4th-6th grade students in the Twin Cities area and beyond, through the Big River Art Contest, coordinated by the National Park Service (NPS). Chosen from hundreds of entries, the winning pieces utilize a variety of techniques to depict the Mississippi River. Bold and dramatic paintings contrast with delicate detailed pencil work. A strong stewardship message is incorporated into many pieces through free verse. Students create art in one of three themes: Mighty Mississippi, Big River Journey, and Caring for the River. Additional Big River Student Art may be enjoyed at Fort Snelling State Park and the NPS Mississippi River Visitor Center at the Science Museum of Minnesota.

The Big River Art Contest is part of the larger award winning program Big River Journey which connects students with the science and heritage of the Mississippi River, and fosters river stewardship. Big River Journey is a collaborative program of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area and eleven partner organizations.

For more information visit <http://www.nps.gov/miss>.

-NPS-

Photos available through website: <http://www.nps.gov/miss/programs/brj/gallery2003.html>  
Suggested photo: Esau Sponslier, Emerson SILC School, Category- Big River Journey  
Higher Resolution photos available upon request.