National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 6, 2006 Contact: Kathy Swenson 651-290-3030 ext 303

Student River-Art Show And Award Ceremony at Science Museum of Minnesota

Artwork of seventeen elementary school artists is featured this year in the Big River Art Show, on display at the Mississippi River Gallery of the Science Museum of Minnesota starting November 16, 2006. The art celebrates the Mississippi River, its wildlife, importance and care. The winning pieces of art were chosen from over 700 entries submitted for the Big River Student Art Contest coordinated by the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area, a unit of the National Park Service. The winning youthful artists will be recognized at a reception at the Science Museum of Minnesota on Thursday, November 16, from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. Certificates will be presented to the student winners by Acting Park Superintendent Steve Johnson at 7:00 p.m. The winning student art will be on display at the Science Museum of Minnesota in the Mississippi River Gallery of the Science Museum of Minnesota starting November 16, 2006. The Science Museum is located at 120 West Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul. The winning art may also be viewed at http://www.nps.gov/miss/photosmultimedia/artgal2006.htm.

The Big River Art contest is part of the award winning program, Big River Journey, also coordinated by the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area. Throughout the school year, thousands of 4th-6th grade students in the Twin Cities area are connected to the science and heritage of the Mississippi River through Big River Journey and the Big River Art contest. Students' learning about the river is reflected in the art contest's three themes: Mighty Mississippi, Big River Journey, and Caring for the River.

Big River Journey is a collaborative program of the Mississippi National River and Recreation

Area and nine non-profit organizations, state and federal agencies and a local tribe. Big River Journey

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partners are the Padelford Packet Boat Co., Science Museum of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (Adopt-a-River, Fort Snelling State Park, Project WET), Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Minnesota Historical Society, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux (Dakota) Community, Friends of the Mississippi River, Hamline University Center for Global Environmental Education, and the Mississippi River Fund/National Park Foundation. The National Park Service works with these and other partners throughout the national river's 72-mile length to care for the river's nationally significant resources. For more information: http://www.nps.gov/miss.

Directions to the Science Museum of Minnesota may be found at http://www.smm.org or call the National Park Service Mississippi River Visitor Center at 651-293-0200, located within the Museum. A complete list of winners follows.

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2006 Big River Art Contest Winners

Caring For The River

Grand Prize Winner: Naveen Jain, Wayzata East Middle School, Grade 6,

Teacher- Linda Johaneson

Winner: Jacob LaBine, Eisenhower Elementary, (Anoka-Henn.), Grade 4,

Teacher- Mrs. Gilsrud

Winner: Adia Vega, Chelsea Heights Elementary, SPPS, Grade 4,

Teacher- Barb McIntosh

Winner: Elizabeth Weir, Capitol Hill Magnet School, SPPS, Grade 6,

Teacher- Ms. Antonow

Honorary Mention: Lucy Beni, L'Etoile du Nord French Immersion, SPPS,

Grade 5, Teacher- Madame Lacey

Mighty Mississippi

Grand Prize Winner: Hannah Nesser, Capitol Hill Magnet School, SPPS,

Grade 6, Teacher- Ms. Prince

Winner: Dominique Neher, Capitol Hill Magnet School, SPPS, Grade 6,

Teacher- Mr. Ford

Winner: Mackenzie Peery, Hillcrest School, Bloomington, Grade 5,

Teacher- Mr. Tim Kaari

Winner: Monique Holod, Capitol Hill Magnet School, SPPS, Grade 6,

Teacher- Mr. Ford

Honorary Mention: Emma Burnham, Capitol Hill Magnet School, SPPS,

Grade 6, Teacher- Ms. Antonow

Honorary Mention: Yeng Moua, Como Park Elementary, SPPS, Grade 5,

Teacher- Ms. Wald

Big River Journey

Grand Prize Winner: Maddy Pliska, Hillcrest School, Bloomington, Grade 5,

Teacher- Mr. Tim Kaari

Winner: Katie Enzenauer, Monroe Elementary (Anoka-Henn.), Grade 4,

Teacher- Mrs. Steffl

Winner: Hnub Yang, Como Park Elementary, SPPS, Grade 5,

Teacher- Laurie Halvorson

Winner: Jordan Dyck, Oak Ridge Elementary, Eagan, Grade 4,

Teacher- Mrs. Manville

Honorary Mention: Elowyn Pfeiffer, Adams Spanish Immersion, SPPS, Grade 4,

Teacher- Sra. Medina

Honorary Mention: Cameron Eller, Washington Elem. (Anoka-Henn.), Grade 4,

Teacher- Susan McManus

SPPS = St. Paul Public Schools

Please call or e-mail Park Ranger Kathy Swenson with questions-651-290-3030 ext. 303, kathleen swenson@nps.gov