

Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

Use the complete site name here (e.g. Palo Alto Battlefield Historic Site). 111 Kellogg Blvd. E., Ste 105 Saint Paul, MN 55101-1256

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

## News Release

Use a "short-hand" version of the site name here (e.g. Palo Alto Battlefield not Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Site).

For Immediate Release
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For more information:
Kathy Swenson
651-290-3030 ext. 303
kathleen swenson@nps.gov

## STUDENT ART SHOW AND AWARD CEREMONY AT SCIENCE MUSEUM OF MINNESOTA

Seventeen elementary school artists are featured this year in the Big River Art Show, on display at the Mississippi River Gallery of the Science Museum of Minnesota starting October 28, 2005. 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 Student Art Contest, coordinated by the National Park Service (NPS). The winning youthful artists will be recognized at a reception at the Science Museum of Minnesota on Friday, October 28, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Certificates will be presented to the student winners by Park Superintendent JoAnn Kyral at 7:00p.m. The Science Museum is located at 120 West Kellogg Boulevard, St. Paul.

Chosen from hundreds of entries, the 17 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. The winning art may be viewed at

http://www.nps.gov/miss/programs/brj/gallery2005.html. Winning artwork from previous years is on display at various Twin City area venues. The Big River Student 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 twelve non-profit organizations, state and federal agencies and a local tribe.

Big River Journey partners are the Padelford Packet Boat Co., Science Museum of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (Adopta-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, Metropolitan Council, 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 from the cities of Ramsey and Dayton to Hastings, Minnesota, 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.

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