

Press Release

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BENEDICTINE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT'S CLEVELAND CLINIC- INSPIRED ARTWORK USED IN NATIONAL HYDROCEPHALUS ASSOCIATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

July 19, 2006, Cleveland: The artwork of Jay McGrath, an eleventh grade student at Benedictine High School in Cleveland who participated in the Cleveland Clinic eXpressions™ program last fall, was incorporated in the national Hydrocephalus Association's newly created Lifetime Achievement Award this year.

Three individuals received the award at the association's national conference which took place in Baltimore May 26-29. McGrath's artwork consists of a painting interpreting the research done by Nick Zingales, a twelfth grader at Benedictine High School who studied blood vessel density and oxygen deprivation in hydrocephalus patients during his 2005 summer internship at Cleveland Clinic. The artwork also graces the cover of the Spring 2006 Cleveland Clinic Health Education program booklet.

"We're excited that Jay McGrath's artistry, which was inspired by research at Cleveland Clinic, has reached a national audience," said Rosalind Strickland, Director of the Clinic's Office of Civic Education Initiatives. "The Hydrocephalus Association's interest in this artwork speaks volumes of the power of research and learning across many audiences."

"We were looking for artwork with a connection to hydrocephalus that would reflect the significance of this award," said Gina DeGennaro, Development Director of the Hydrocephalus Association. "When I came across Jay McGrath's piece, I just knew it was perfect. The colors and expressions communicated through the images of brain scans truly capture the many faces of those affected by hydrocephalus. I couldn't imagine anything else."

The Cleveland Clinic eXpressions™ program uses the arts to engage high school students in the world of scientific research. Through project-based, peer-to-peer learning, art students interpret research conducted by classmates who have graduated from the Clinic's Science Internship Program. The student artists work to shed light on the research, illuminating the larger, societal issues the research represents. In addition to enhancing participants' knowledge of and appreciation for the arts and science, the program promotes creativity, innovation, communication and teamwork.



The eXpressions™ program was created by the Clinic's Office of Civic Education Initiatives, which is responsible for creating and sustaining education-focused community benefit planning to help strengthen the region's educational system and reinforce Cleveland Clinic's role as a major contributor to Northeast Ohio's future.

Last summer, the Office of Civic Education Initiatives launched a science internship that paired 41 Northeast Ohio high school juniors and seniors with researchers and physicians at the Clinic during a nine-week paid program. The internships gave participating students the opportunity to work alongside world-renowned researchers and clinicians on projects the students presented at the end of summer.

This year, in addition to offering the summer science internship program, the Office of Civic Education Initiatives will start a second high school internship program for Northeast Ohio students interested in nursing careers. The office is also targeting younger populations by offering health education programs such as Spotlight on Learning, a program that offers health education and theater, and Veggie U, a project that teaches students about farming and nutrition, to elementary schools students.

The Hydrocephalus Association is a 23 year old nonprofit organization that provides support, education, resource materials and advocacy to individuals, families and professionals affected by hydrocephalus. As the nation's largest organization devoted exclusively to hydrocephalus, it is their mission to insure that individuals and their families dealing with this chronic condition receive personal support, comprehensive educational material, and have access to on-going quality medical care. The Hydrocephalus Association's website address is www.hydroassoc.org.

Cleveland Clinic, located in Cleveland, Ohio, is a not-for-profit multispecialty academic medical center that integrates clinical and hospital care with research and education. Cleveland Clinic was founded in 1921 by four renowned physicians with a vision of providing outstanding patient care based upon the principles of cooperation, compassion and innovation. *U.S. News & World Report* consistently names Cleveland Clinic as one of the nation's best hospitals in its annual "America's Best Hospitals" survey. Approximately 1,500 full-time salaried physicians at Cleveland Clinic and Cleveland Clinic Florida represent more than 100 medical specialties and subspecialties. In 2005, 2.7 million patients came for treatment from every state and 100 countries. Cleveland Clinic website address is www.clevelandclinic.org.

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