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Recommended Citation

Office of University Communications, "Gardner-Webb President Announces New Awards to Support Undergraduate Art" (2011). *Gardner-Webb NewsCenter Archive*. 1986.
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Gardner-Webb President Announces New Awards to Support Undergraduate Art

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Office of University Communications

November 16, 2011

University to Annually Purchase Select Student Art for Campus Decoration

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.— Two new annual awards will enable Gardner-Webb University to purchase original art by its undergraduate art students for campus decoration, Gardner-Webb President Dr. Frank Bonner announced recently. Together, the Presidential Purchase Awards for Undergraduate Art and for Senior Art will enable the University to spend \$1,500 per year to purchase students' original artwork for permanent display in campus facilities

The money will be used to award artists for their work exhibited at the School of Performing and Visual Arts' annual undergraduate and senior art shows. The first purchased pieces will be displayed in the Tucker Student Center, which is currently under construction and set to open in 2012.

"The Department of Visual Arts is grateful to President Bonner for his generous establishment of the two annual awards. We hope this will encourage businesses and individuals in our community to support our art students with similar awards, which are a great way for businesses to decorate their walls with original art," said Doug Knotts, chair of the GWU visual art department

"We are excited, and the art faculty think it is fitting, that the walls of the new Tucker Student Center and other campus buildings will be decorated with the original work of our very own students," Knotts continued. "Their work represents the dreams, aspirations, and concerns of the students of this university."

Bonner made the official announcement while attending a recent senior exhibit for artists Katie Grace Kibler and Jack Harold Zimmerman. He then spent several minutes admiring those students' pieces, which included an array of paintings, prints, pottery, sculpture, and photography.

Currently on display is the Senior Art Show for Melissa Potter, open through Dec. 16 in the Dover Memorial Library. The show features original acrylic and pastel paintings, charcoal drawings, and select photography.

For more information about the Visual Arts Department, or the School of Performing and Visual Arts at Gardner-Webb, call 704-406-4656.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University seeks a higher ground in higher education – one that embraces faith and intellectual freedom, balances conviction with compassion, and inspires in students a love of learning, service, and leadership.