



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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North Carolina Museum of Art Presents Exhibition of Student Art from the Newcomers School
Works of art created during yearlong Art of Collaboration program

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) presents *North Carolina and Me: Student Art from the Newcomers School*, an exhibition of work created by students during the yearlong program Art of Collaboration: Newcomers. Developed as part of a partnership between the NCMA and [Doris Henderson Newcomers School](#)—a Guilford County public elementary school that serves newly arrived immigrant and refugee students—this program encourages art and elementary teachers to work collaboratively to integrate NCMA works of art and art-making activities into science, math, and social studies instruction while students learn or improve their English-language skills.

The Newcomers School's 60 third to fifth grade students come from more than 23 countries and speak more than 17 languages. "For these students, art functions as a common language, helping them learn and share experiences as they make North Carolina their home," explains Jill Taylor, coordinator of school partnerships at the NCMA. "The goal of Art of Collaboration: Newcomers is to support both teachers and students in making connections between art and other disciplines to improve quality of learning."

During Art of Collaboration: Newcomers students work on a number of projects that incorporate art into various subject areas. Examples of projects designed as part of the program include:

- **Characters in a Setting:** After discussing artist Winslow Homer's *Weaning the Calf* in relation to character and setting, students create painted collages to explore these elements of plot. Treating themselves as characters, the students place their photos in settings representing North Carolina's geographic regions: coastal plain, piedmont, and the mountains.
- **Fantasy vs. Reality:** Students compare realistic and fanciful images of birds from the NCMA collection to think about the differences between fantasy and reality. They create owl collages that show their comprehension of these differences.
- **Abstract Splatter in Geometry:** Discussing paintings by Frank Stella and Jackson Pollock provides an opportunity for students to look for geometry in art and think about how artists convey feelings and create a mood. Then, students pick paint colors in squeeze bottles and add to a class painting by using movement inspired by shapes and angles.
- **Me in North Carolina: Culture through Craft Traditions:** Studying North Carolina's craft traditions allows Newcomers students to make connections between the traditions and symbols of their new home and their native countries.

Artwork created by the students during these projects will be on view in *North Carolina and Me* through July 27. An eight-minute video about the project will also be on view. Exhibition introductory labels will be published in seven languages—English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Burmese, Vietnamese, and Nepali—and project labels will be published in English and Spanish.

The program and student exhibition will be recognized at the Newcomers Student Art Show Celebration at the NCMA on May 17.

Art of Collaboration: Newcomers is the first Art of Collaboration (AOC) program for elementary school students. Since 2007, the NCMA has helped middle schools across North Carolina use visual arts to engage students in learning about math, science, social studies, and language arts. Each yearlong AOC program includes hands-on teacher training, substitute funding for co-teaching and collaborative planning, development of a lesson plan portfolio by teachers, Museum visits for participating students, and an NCMA student exhibition and reception with funding to bring students and families.

(continued)

North Carolina and Me: Student Art from the Newcomers School

April 13–July 27, 2014

East Building, Level B, Studio 3

Free

Credit Line

Art of Collaboration at the Doris Henderson Newcomers School is made possible by the support of the W. Trent Ragland Jr. Foundation. The exhibition, video, and booklet are supported by the Duke Energy Education Endowment Fund.

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, governor, and an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, secretary.