



**Suffolk Center on the
Holocaust, Diversity and
Human Understanding, Inc.**



Embracing Our Differences Long Island

*****MEDIA ALERT*****

For Thursday, October 2

**CELEBRATING
EMBRACING OUR DIFFERENCES
And
RECOGNITION OF ARTISTS**

**OCTOBER 2, 4 PM
NASSAU COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART**

The public will gather on Oct 2 for a ceremony celebrating Embracing Our Differences and recognizing sponsors and artists featured in the Embracing Our Difference Exhibit.

Featured artwork will include group projects by the Westbury Friends School; Seeds of Change, a youth partnership of Adelante of Suffolk County and Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center; Brentwood High School; Commack Middle School; and the EOC of Nassau ACT for Youth program. Also in the exhibition are works that celebrate the diverse students of the Frank J. Cannon Southeast Elementary School in Brentwood, and of the Center Street School in Williston Park.

Of special interest is that the Act for Youth project was established to address racial incidents in Jena, Louisiana as well as on Long Island, and it gives voice to their views on diversity. Their work is an expression of hope that much can “be accomplished if all ages and races come together to fight racism and embrace diversity.”

The work of Frank Burdi was inspired in a very different way. His piece tells the story of his family journey to the U.S. He tells us that his Mom “is very much a part of this piece” and that while she has Alzheimer’s, he wants to bring her to visit the exhibit and experience it in billboard size.

The exhibition, of works by professional and students artists, is designed to promote the development of community values that reject prejudice and discrimination, and that support peaceful coexistence and an appreciation for differences. The objective was well-stated by artist Milt Masur: “This work was inspired by the idea that youth should be able to look forward to the future unencumbered by prejudice about ethnicity or gender.” In describing his piece, artist Robert Ambrosini said “We all must work together to break the barriers that separate us in order to love and respect one another for who we truly are inside.” Artist Grace Barrett is confident that “No effort is too small.”

EXHIBITION DATES:

**September 26 – October 13 at the Nassau County Museum of Art
October 17 – 29 at Heckscher Park, Huntington Village**

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

**Roger Tilles, Member, Board of Regents
Gary Ackerman, Congressman, 5th District
Constance Schwartz, Executive Director, Nassau County Museum of Art**

WHEN: October 2, 4 pm

**WHERE: NASSAU COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART
1 Museum Drive, Roslyn Harbor**

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