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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reading, PA (*March 1, 2017*) - GoggleWorks Center for the Arts (GoggleWorks) is pleased to host the annual Secondary Art Exhibit in the Irvin and Lois E. Cohen Gallery from February 25-March 12, 2017. Coordinated by the Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) annually since 1981, this exciting display of artistic expression includes the work of young artists from Berks County's 18 public school districts, Berks Career & Technology Center, and Berks Catholic High School.

Students, families, friends, and the public are invited to attend an awards ceremony and reception on Sunday, March 5, from 1-3pm, at GoggleWorks.

There GoggleWorks will honor several students with a Summer Ambassador Fellowship, made possible through a generous donation by Ray and Carole Neag in support of arts education. The fully funded program provides a shared studio space for fellows and pairs each teen with a professional artist mentor to further their artistic skills. The fellows will have access to GoggleWorks courses and teaching studios to create a culminating project or body of work to be displayed in August.

Special awards will also be presented by BCIU, Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen, and Berks Art Council. Additionally, recognition will be given in 16 categories including: wheel-thrown pottery, hand built pottery, black and white photography, color photography, sculpture, acrylic/oil painting, watercolor, color drawing, black and white drawing, printmaking, mixed media/collage, computer art, altered photography and design, and jewelry and textiles.

This year's participating schools include:

Antietam School District, Boyertown Area School District, Brandywine Heights Area School District, Conrad Weiser Area School District, Daniel Boone Area School District, Exeter Township School District, Fleetwood Area School District, Governor Mifflin School District, Hamburg Area School District, Kutztown Area School District, Muhlenberg School District, Oley Valley School District, Reading School District, Schuylkill Valley School District, Tulpehocken Area School District, Twin Valley



School District, Wilson School District, Wyomissing Area School District, Berks Catholic High School, and Berks Career & Technology Center.

About GoggleWorks Center for the Arts:

Located in the former Willson Goggle Factory building, GoggleWorks is the largest center of its kind in the country. The five-story, 145,000-square-foot complex features six large teaching studios in ceramics, hot and warm glass, metalsmithing, photography, and woodworking; 35 juried studios for artists and makers working in a variety of mediums; and dozens of music, arts, and other cultural organizations. The complex also includes several major exhibition galleries, a 131-seat theatre, a cafe and STORE featuring the work of over 200 artists from GoggleWorks and beyond. GoggleWorks is open daily from 9am-9pm; admission and parking are always free. Plan your visit at goggleworks.org.

About Berks County Intermediate Unit:

The Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) serves as a resource to Berks County children, schools, and the wider community by developing expertise and sharing information. It's mission is to provide quality resources, innovative programs, and responsible leadership to meet the educational and social service needs of our children, schools, and community. The BCIU fulfills its mission by addressing traditional and emerging needs, serving as an essential link for learning, and as a liaison between local schools and the PA Department of Education. Learn more at berksiu.org.

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