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Summary: The service-learning project benefits the Morris Public Library and the Stevens County Human Services Youth Fund.

(December 1, 2010)-Over the last several years, students have merged their interest in the visual arts with a sense of community in service-learning projects. This fall, Associate Professor of Studio Art Michael Eble’s Beginning Painting, Advanced Painting, and Mural Project and Public Art Intellectual Community students were asked to create paintings inspired by children’s literature.

The Mural and Public Art class, composed completely of first-year, non-art major students, has additionally created a public artwork that will be presented to the Morris Public Library for its permanent collection.

The other class paintings, all 18 x 24 inch acrylic on canvas, will be hung at the Morris Public Library and sold for $40, first come, first served.

All proceeds will be donated to Stevens County Human Services Youth Fund to help provide families with young children with vital support to participate in extra-curricular activities, as well as the Morris Public Library to fund the acquisition of new children’s books.

The paintings will be available for viewing and purchase at the Morris Public Library during the month of December. An opening reception will take place on Thursday, December 9, 2010, from 5 until 7 p.m. Students will be available to discuss their paintings with the public. Each student has also provided a short commentary to accompany their painting that discusses their creative process, aesthetic concerns, and the personal significance of their selected book.

Argie Manolis, coordinator of the Office of Community Engagement, has again collaborated with Michael Eble and his painting students in a concerted effort to support the community. “We know there’s an increased need for families to make ends meet in this economic climate,” she said. “I’m glad the students were interested in getting involved in a project like this one.”

Enjoy a slideshow of paintings and mural creation.

Peter Pan by Sarianne Sve
If you give a mouse a cookie by Renee Olin
Dr. Seuss Landscape by Josh Smith
Jungle Book by Ashley Splonskowsk
Owl Babies by Anastasia Buscher

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