



BENSON
CREATIVE
DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BENSON CREATIVE DISTRICT CELEBRATES STUDENT TALENT AND COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AT BENSON HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR ART SHOW

Benson, Omaha - April 17, 2024 - The Benson Creative District is excited to announce its support and participation in Benson High School's upcoming Senior Art Show, scheduled for Friday, May 3rd, from 3:30 pm to 6:00 pm at Benson High School. This event precedes BFF Omaha's First Friday event in the Benson Creative District, promising an evening filled with artistic excellence and community engagement.

The highlight of the Senior Art Show is the unveiling of a stunning new mural in the freshman wing, created by artist Oria Simonini. This culturally representative artwork aims to enhance the learning environment for students while reflecting their contributions and perspectives. Attendees can also meet and engage with Simonini during a special talk from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm, gaining insights into the mural's creation process.

In addition to the mural unveiling, the Senior Art Show will feature the launch of "The Carrot," a publication created by graphic design students under the mentorship of JP Gurnett, BFF Omaha's Communications Director. The publication features student artwork and writing as well as a directory of businesses within the creative district.

Over the course of the school year, Benson High School and the Benson Creative District have formed a strong partnership, introducing students to the vast opportunities in the arts within their neighborhood and the wider Omaha community. Throughout the semester, students have participated in lunch n' learn panels, interacting with accomplished professionals in creative careers such as graphic design, photography, traditional 2D art, creative writing, and more. These sessions have inspired students and exposed them to diverse career paths. The Benson Creative District also sponsored select student artworks that were featured prominently on 2 billboards within the creative district during Youth Art Month in March.

The Senior Art Show is the culmination of students' hard work and creativity, offering them a platform to showcase their talents to the community. Coinciding with Benson First Friday, the event invites community members to join them in celebrating these young artists by attending the High School's art show before joining the district-wide art walk, fostering a spirit of collaboration and celebration.

For more information about the Benson High School Senior Art Show and collaborative efforts with the Benson Creative District, please contact Annie Butler at 402-659-7758 or annie@bffomaha.org

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The Benson Creative District (BCD) represents the convergence of businesses, individuals, and artistic expression, forming a dynamic community that prioritizes inclusivity and Safety. It aims to elevate artists, amplify Benson's creative spirit, and serve as a hub for creative enterprise and expression in the Midwest . All activities were made possible with the support of the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

[BFF Omaha](#) (BFF) is the administrator of the BCD. It is an Omaha-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit that is building community through arts engagement. BFF is comprised of 93 percent artists and 85 percent volunteers. We believe that everyone has the right to create, experience, and cultivate the arts in our communities.