

Winners of the inaugural Christchurch Sister Cities Young Artists Competition announced

1st place in the inaugural Christchurch Sister Cities Young Artists Competition was awarded to 'Dreaming the thoughts of others' by Melissa Gray (17), St Margarets College.

"The dream of different people, from different cultures coming together to create a strong peace between each other ... shown by people of different cultures, blending together in amongst floating/airy dove feathers, which symbolize peace ... realism and abstract forms of people emphasise the difference of others ... the land represents what we live on and what we all share. Randomly placed images ... like thoughts ... like a dream."

2nd was 'World Flag' by 13 year old Marcus Patman (13), Lincoln High School, from Diamond Harbour

"I decided to design a 'World Flag', a flag which would represent all cultures and a connection between them. It is flown above the world for all to see. The different colours and country flags represent all countries/cultures, and the bridge represents the connection/union between them."

3rd was 'Universal Unity' by Siobhan O'Brien (14), Avonside Girls High of Southshore.

"I was inspired to create this artwork because I don't see the need for all the wars in this world and if everyone could just understand each other and their religions and create world peace. I have used a swirly rainbow effect to symbolise peace and people coming together. The silhouettes connected around the globe conveys a sense of unity between all global villages. I have painted the ribbon connecting the figures, a red/pink colour to show sharing of love."

The Exhibition at Creation Arts Space, 105 Worcester Street ran from 29 March to 15 April. The exhibition was officially opened by Cr David Cox, who is a member of the Christchurch, England Sister City Committee, on Tuesday, 29 March.

'Dreaming the thoughts of others' is to be couriered to Washington to compete in the 'Sister Cities International Young Artists Competition 2005'. Copies of the three winning entries were displayed at the NZ Sister Cities Conference, Bay of Island 6-9 April 2005.

The 3 judges were Marlene Le Cren, Arts Adviser, CCC; Alan Cathro, Curator, ArtZone, COCA; Adam Haywood, Director, Creation.

The Drawing Room sponsored the great prizes: 1st an easel, 2nd and 3rd were 2 lovely art boxes and Creation have given a 2 week exhibition to the winning artist or her school.

The competition was organised by International Christchurch Youth (ICY) and International Relations, CCC

