

the deborah newton award

7TH/8TH GRADE ART MAKING EXPERIENCE

"The legacy of this experience is to express, explore and do art." – Deborah Newton

• ELIGIBILITY

Regardless of the applicant's previous classroom experience with visual art, this award is open only to students currently enrolled (as of annual application deadline date/time) in 7th or 8th grade public or private schools or home-school curriculums within the Rockford Area. A map defining geographic area is available on Womanspace's web site.

• SCHEDULE

- Applications can be submitted anytime up until the **5:00 pm deadline on:** **March 17**
- A 3 or 5 person selection committee meets to review applications. **March 18-24**
- Notification of award winner **March 25**
- Awardee meets with Womanspace to select a desired art experience: **April 1-5**
- Name and photograph of awardee announced to the public: **April 6**
- Awardee participates in experiences and represents Womanspace and the award **April 7-March 31**

• CRITERIA TO APPLY

- Meet eligibility requirement
- Interest in participating in an art making experience either at Womanspace or at another arts organization.
- Write an essay expressing your interest, motivation, and commitment to receive the award
- Submit at least two letters of support from your school or homeschooling organization
- Submit images of your prior work (noting that no prior experience is required to apply, so may be your personal creative work outside of classroom/school)
- Willingness to represent the award (be photographed, interviewed, etc.), if selected
- Willingness to serve on the 3 or 5 person selection group for subsequent award recipients, if selected
- Interest in exhibiting your work at Womanspace or other art/public venues during the year of your award

• HOW TO SUBMIT APPLICATION

Applicant submissions shall be made electronically using the online application form available on the Womanspace website. Your parents, home room teacher or other school/homeschool representative can assist you if you need help.

• POSSIBLE ART MAKING EXPERIENCES

Art-making experiences shall be of mutual interest and benefit to the recipient and Womanspace. Examples include:

- Art classes / lessons offered at Womanspace
- Art-making experiences offered by other organizations approved/selected by Womanspace (e.g., Rockford Art Museum, Rock Valley College, Rockford University, etc.)
- Internship at Womanspace or other arts organization that includes participating in art-making experiences
- Specially created art-making experience for awardee. Note: This option may require the awardee to sign an agreement that describes the details and actual cost of this experience (if, for example, the experience would involve working one-on-one with a professional artist who would be paid through this award).

Examples of art-making experiences can be found on the websites or publications of various groups like Womanspace, 317 Market Street Collective, Rockford Art Museum, SPARK! through Rockford Area Arts Council. You can take advantage of pre-existing experiences or, with Womanspace, create your own.