



NEWS RELEASE

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Art Walk Showcases Diné College Student Talent

Instructor: November Art Walk A Success

TSAILE, Ariz. — Diné College students Brian Jones and Marvin McKenzie stood amid a slew of digital conceptions on display at the Nov. 13 *Art Walk*, an annual event whereby students showcase their work to the public.

Such sights are part of the new look happening — intended to promote Diné College's new bachelor of fine arts program in studio art. As part of *Art Walk*, participating students display paintings, drawings, digital photography, graphic design and computer illustrations.

Jones is a finance major from Chinle, Ariz., and McKenzie is from Shiprock and studies fine arts. Both exhibited recently done digital works.

"Our goal is to share the professional motivation of our students with local folks, while also regionally promoting our academic programs in Arizona and New Mexico," Matthew Bollinger, a faculty member with Diné College's Fine Arts and Humanities Department, said. Bollinger assisted in the organization of the event. "We want to be the premier academic resource for folks seeking dynamic careers in art and design."

Dozens of student works were on display at the Guy Gorman Classroom Building and at the Charlie Benally Main Library. Among

them was "*The Dark Knight*," a computerized *Batman* superhero caricature by Jones and a caricature by McKenzie called "*Tom Waits*," also computerized and done in homage to the California-based rock musician.

Jones won a first place award for the graphic design of *Batman* and McKenzie won first, second and honorable mention awards for digital photography, graphic design and painting.

Dozens of Diné College graphic art and design students participated in the event.

"This was all done on a computer," McKenzie said of the *Tom Waits* graphic design piece. "He (Waits) is one of my favorite musicians. That basically was the inspiration."

Bollinger noted that a goal of *Art Walk* is to give participating students recognition and confidence through their work. "It takes a lot of courage and commitment to do art and design in a professional sense. We want to celebrate that passion for expression."

Bollinger, himself a graphic artist, said another goal of *Art Walk* is to alert the public about the myriad of artistic talent at Diné College. The college operates campuses in Chinle, Crownpoint, Tuba City, Window Rock, Shiprock and Tsaile.