



Grand opening of gallery set

By **Jenna Nielsen**

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Students from the Mountain Area and even Mexico will showcase more than 300 pieces of artwork at the grand opening of the Yosemite High School Jack and Jane Gyer Art Center on Wednesday, March 29.

The gallery, located in the art building at the center of campus, will hold its grand opening from 7:50 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will be open for two weeks.

The public is invited.

YHS has partnered with Puerto Vallarta High School in Jalisco, Mexico. The sister school e-mails the art work to YHS, where it is scanned and printed to be shown at the gallery opening. Fourteen pieces from the school will be showcased.

"We showcase our football players and mock trial team and our gallery is a place to showcase our art," said art instructor Rivka Ann Schaffner de Reyes. "We offer an excellent program and we want to showcase student's work."

YHS is the second high school in California to open a full gallery run by students.

Schaffner de Reyes said any student in the mountain community can put artwork up in the gallery. It is not limited to just YHS students.

There will be two main shows at the opening, seven stars and artistic statement.

Seven stars is a group of seven Advanced Placement (AP) students who will showcase their portfolios. After they are shown in the gallery, the portfolios will be sent to New York to be graded.

Artistic statement will feature pieces of art with a statement attached by the student explaining the piece.

"The paint brushes have been rendered to make them realistic — they look totally real," Schaffner de Reyes said.

The art department is also in the process of putting on three major fundraisers in order to purchase 40 new classroom desks.

"The tables we use now are 36 years old and they are old lunch tables," Schaffner de Reyes said. "This is a beautiful new classroom and the students need desks."

They will be selling coupon books for \$20 that include discounts and coupons to several local merchants including, Crab Cakes, Subway, Ducey's, KFC, Sierra Lane, Zanders and Taco Bell.

Revive Day Spa has also donated four massages and tickets will be sold at \$1. The winners will be chosen through a drawing.

Erna's Elderberry House has also donated a brunch for two for the fundraiser.

So far, a donation of \$813 has been received for one desk by Tim Allen. The total cost of each

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desk is \$813.60.

"We totally appreciate it," Schaffner de Reyes said. "We will be making a plaque for those who donate the money and we will screw them onto the desks."

If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please call the YHS art department at (559) 683-4667, ext. 273.



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