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For immediate release

Odessa College to host Congressional Art Competition Reception with Congressman Mike Conaway April 30

ODESSA (April 25, 2011) – Congressman Mike Conaway will announce the winner of the Congressional Art Competition at a reception from 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 30 hosted by Odessa College in the Options Gallery in the Murry H. Fly Learning Resources Center.

Odessa College photography and art chair, Steve Goff, art instructor Barry Phillips, the elder, and adjunct art instructor Daiken Asakawa will judge the almost 35 entries submitted from schools all across U.S. Congressional District 11.

The winner will receive a custom framing, two complimentary plane tickets to Washington, D.C. to attend the unveiling of the winning entries, and two nights of complimentary lodging. The winning piece of art will be hung in the United States Capitol tunnel for one year.

Once a year members of the U.S. House of Representatives have the opportunity to host locally judged art competitions for high school age students within their districts. Since this competition entitled, *An Artistic Discovery*, was created in 1982, hundreds of thousands of high school students have participated at the local level. The winning piece of art from each Congressional district is displayed in the Cannon tunnel, a pedestrian walkway leading to the United States Capitol, for about one year. This walkway is frequented by Members of Congress, staff and the general public as they enter the Capitol Building and thus provides an opportunity for thousands to enjoy the talents of young artists from every region of the country. Each winning student will be invited to attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the Cannon tunnel of the Capitol Building.

For more information about the reception, please contact the Odessa College Media Relations Office at 335-6416.