



**Academy of Visual and Performing Arts  
At Culver City High School**

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**AVPA Art Student Wins Award in the Congressional Art Competition**

*For immediate release:*

**Culver City, CA – June 5, 2008:** Each spring, Members of the U.S. House of Representatives sponsor "An Artistic Discovery" art competition. This is a nation-wide arts competition open to all high school students.

Ana Swarup was awarded Second Place in this year's 33rd Congressional District art competition. Miss Swarup is a student at Culver City High School's Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA). Her artwork will be displayed for one year in Washington D.C. at the office of Congresswoman Diane Watson. The entries for this national competition included original works of art using a variety of media and techniques from schools in the Los Angeles area. Ana was recognized for her finely detailed and skilled paintings of jewelry. The invitation included an awards ceremony at the District Office of Congresswoman Diane Watson. Each student will receive an official certificate for participation. Ana says, "I'm fortunate and proud to have been selected for the competition. It is an honor for my artwork to be displayed in Washington, D.C."



Kristine Hatanaka, Co-Executive Director of AVPA and Creative Director of Art says, "I am very proud of Ana's accomplishment. Her artwork is exemplary. The Academy Art students have tremendous talent and creativity. We appreciate all the opportunities to exhibit at a national level and compete with schools from the Los Angeles area."

The Congressional Art Competition began in 1982 to provide an opportunity for members of Congress to encourage and recognize the artistic talent of their young constituents. Since then, over 650,000 high school students have been involved with the nationwide competition.

**About the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts**

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School has been inspiring and empowering students to build a compassionate, creative community through innovative and challenging arts education since 1996. AVPA enjoys tremendous support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other area businesses as well as from the Culver City community. For more information about the Academy, go to <http://avpa.org> or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or Kristine Hatanaka at 310-842-4200 x6001.

Photo caption:

Ana Swarup, Congressional Art Competition award recipient, with CCHS Principal Pam Magee

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