

Oh! The Places You'll Go! A Dr. Seuss Themed Exhibition

By Nick Norris

If you walk into Ann Jackson Gallery from the street, most of the year there, you will find that the front half of the gallery consists of fine art in various mediums. These various mediums include oils, acrylics, and works on paper, sculptures, and glass like any other art gallery.

But once you get to the back half of the gallery, you will find art that is not in every gallery. There, you will find the Art of Dr. Seuss. What is unique about Ann Jackson Gallery is that they are one of 15 galleries in the United States, out of 30 galleries in the world, licensed to represent the Art of Dr. Seuss.

However at the beginning of March, it is often a time of celebration for those in both the children's book world and the art world. During this time, the Art of Dr. Seuss often takes front and center at the gallery.

About Dr. Seuss:

Theodor Seuss Geisel was born on March 2, 1904, and died on September 24, 1991, at the age of 87. He is best known by his pseudonym of Dr. Seuss. Geisel was a well known children's book author, poet, and illustrator.

His greatest know books and illustrations come in the form of *Green Eggs and Ham*, *The Cat in the Hat*, *One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish*, *Horton Hears a Who*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *The Lorax*, and *Oh! The Places You'll Go!* Geisel wrote and illustrated a total of 44 children's books.

He also leaves behind countless other drawings, paintings, and sculptures.



The Exhibition Kickoff:

On Friday March 2, 2012, Geisel's birthday, the gallery kicked off a Dr. Seuss themed exhibition for *Oh! The Places You'll Go!*

This included an opening reception on Saturday March 3, 2012, from 12 pm to 8 pm, to officially kick off the exhibition. The exhibition is to showcase the artwork of 139 finalist, out of hundreds of entries, whose work is based on the messages incorporated in *Oh! The Places You'll Go!* The 139 finalist came from the local Atlanta area and the southeast United States region.



One local high school senior is Shrinka Roy. She is a finalist from Alpharetta that attends Johns Creek High School. Roy was in attendance at the opening reception on Saturday. Upon being asked why she entered the exhibit, it was because she was a fan of Dr. Seuss. Roy found it exciting to have her painting in an actual art gallery next to Dr. Seuss' artwork and other contestants' artwork.

I've been a fan of Dr. Seuss since I was a kid. It's both exciting and amazing to have my painting in a real art gallery next to his own paintings. - Shrinka Roy

Exhibition and Scholarship Background:

These entries are for Dr. Seuss' *Oh, the Places You'll Go! Scholarship Art Exhibition*. The scholarship winner will be awarded to a 2012 graduating high school senior who will receive \$10,000 towards a college education. First and second runner-ups will receive limited edition Dr. Seuss artwork. The winner and runner-ups will be announced on April 24, 2012.

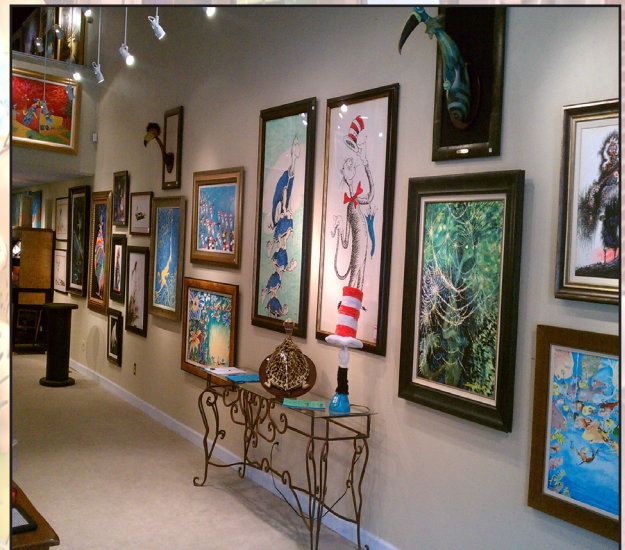
The scholarship, and its competition, is jointly being sponsored by Dr. Seuss Enterprises, Random House Children's Books, and Chase Art Companies. This is the third year in a row that the scholarship, and its ensuing competition, have taken place. However, this is the first year that the contestants in the competition have had their work show in art galleries.

Gallery owner Valerie Jackson was proud to be one of the hosting galleries as she pointed to some of the Dr. Seuss reproductions that her gallery carries.

She notes that she has had a love of Dr. Seuss ever since she was a child. Jackson's favorite Dr. Seuss book is *The Cat in the Hat*. Jackson believes the reason that it was possible for the gallery to host the exhibition was because of the gallery's large collection of Dr. Seuss reproductions.

How the gallery started to obtain Dr. Seuss artwork dates back to 1996 when Jackson went to an art expo in New York that year. Jackson states that a publishing company, at the expo, was looking for art galleries to display Dr. Seuss' private artworks. Jackson then went through the application process and was given seven pieces. Now the gallery's collection exceeds 75 pieces.

The exhibition runs through Thursday, March 15, 2012. The gallery is located on 932 Canton Street, Roswell, GA, 30075. Operation hours for the gallery are on Monday through Saturday from 11 am to 5 pm on each of those days.



Photos by Aaron Frye
Norris Nick Photoshop and In Design Module
4 June 26, 2012
From ENG 4903