

**PRESS RELEASE
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**Upcoming Artist's Forum Guides Aspiring Artists
How to Turn Their Passion for Art into a Career**

Aspiring artists in the region are invited to attend a unique event, called an "Artist's Forum," which will be held at Annapolis High School on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 from 6-8 PM. The event will feature a number of professional artists from multiple art disciplines in a panel discussion sharing how they turned their passion for their art into a career. The panel discussion will be followed by break-out sessions where attendees can meet with the guest artists individually. In addition to the guest artists, a number of universities which offer performing and visual art degrees will be on hand to meet with attendees.

Confirmed artists participating in this event include: Nashville recording artist Ashley Forrest; theater actor and President of West Arundel Creative Arts Rebecca Feibel; multi-media producer and recording artist Bomani Armah; recording artist Leah Morris; dancer and stage actor Shaina Higgins; film actor, director, and photographer Kenneth Arnold; mixed-media artists Meghan Lovett and Caroline Van Sicklin; potter Sarah Knoll; author, journalist, and radio personality Donald Smith; and Marketing Director for the Rams Head Group, Laura Price. Universities scheduled to exhibit include Towson University, University of Maryland, College Park and University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Annapolis High School is located at 2700 Riva Road, Annapolis, MD. The event, which is free of charge, will be held in the school's new Performing and Visual Arts wing.

Coordinated by Gambrills, Maryland high school senior, Sydney Knoll as her Girl Scout Gold Award project, the event addresses a subject very near to her heart.

"I have so many friends who are very talented, but feel that pursuing art as a career is unrealistic. I want these kids to hear from those who HAVE made it - who have successfully taken their love of the arts and made it into a meaningful career. I also want to encourage my peers to pursue their arts passions at the college level, and to show them that when they do, they have a much better chance of being successful."

Sydney Knoll is a senior at Annapolis High School and is enrolled in Anne Arundel County's Performing and Visual Arts (PVA) Magnet Program, for theater. Her family says she has always had a love of the arts, and knew from a very early age that she wanted to get into acting. She is also an active Girl Scout from Ambassador Troop 96, from Odenton, Maryland. For more information, please contact Jessica Knoll at jsknoll@juno.com.