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# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Art contest entries soon to grace Animal Shelter walls

MURPHY (August 28, 2014) Expressions of affection rendered in art will soon grace the walls of the Murphy Animal Shelter as the staff conducts a student contest that asks participants to illustrate their feelings toward animals, says Kim Parker, Support Services Manager.

“All Murphy students are eligible to participate,” she said. “Whether the student attends a school in Murphy or elsewhere or is home schooled. We’re looking for maximum participation.”

The contest is part of the Animal Shelter’s grand opening, set for Oct. 25 when the new shelter is christened during the Howl-o-Ween Celebration. The theme of the art contest is “What Animals Mean to Me,” and students are asked to draw or paint something that exemplifies their feelings toward animals.

Between Monday, Oct. 6, when submissions are due, and the grand opening on Oct. 25, judges will determine which piece of art will win the grand prize. The winner will receive an iPad Mini and have his or her artwork framed and prominently displayed at the shelter.

“We, of course, will take all of the submissions and post on the walls of the shelter periodically,” she said. “We hope to have fresh, new art on the walls every few weeks.”

The contest is open to all students, Kindergarten to tenth grade, who live or attend school in Murphy. Art should be on paper, card stock or poster board. Elementary school-aged students should present their work on “canvasses” of 8 ½ by 11 inches. Middle schoolers should use paper, stock or posters of 11 by 17 inches, and high school students should present their art on 17 by 22-inch paper, card stock or poster board.

Media may include crayons, water colors, standard or color pencils, ink or charcoal. High school entrants may also use acrylic paints. An entry form with parental permission is required and artwork should be clearly marked with the artist’s name, grade, school, home address and phone number on the back.

There is no charge to enter the contest, but a consent form must accompany the entry form.

All forms and entry rules are available at the Murphy Police Department headquarters, 206 North Murphy Road. Deadline for submission of the art is 5 p.m., Monday, Oct. 6. All art and both entry and consent forms must be submitted together. Art submitted without either form will not be eligible for prizes or for exhibition.

The art becomes the property of the City of Murphy and the City reserves the right to display it at its convenience.

The Howl-o-Ween Celebration will include a number of activities and events commemorating the Animal Shelter opening. Final plans for the celebration are being confirmed and once complete will be shared with the community.

“The opening celebration will focus on animals, of course, but also the role that humans have in safeguarding them,” said Parker. More information on the art contest can be obtained by contacting the Police Department at the non-emergency number, 972-468-4200 or by contacting Kim Parker at [kparker@murphytx.org](mailto:kparker@murphytx.org).

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**ABOUT MURPHY** -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 18,020, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income above the state average. With more than 70 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a country feel while exhibiting an aggressive economic development stance. The centrally-located municipal complex includes four buildings that house Fire, Police, City Administration and Public Works. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.