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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF ROCKFORD – CARLSON UNIT
TO HOLD RECEPTION FOR NATIONAL FINE ARTS PROGRAM**

The Boys & Girls Club of Rockford-Carlson Unit is holding a Fine Arts Reception Thursday January 24 from 6 to 9 pm at their Club. They are one of more than 4,400 Clubs across the country joining in a search to identify talented young artists. The competition is part of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's (BGCA) National Fine Arts Exhibit program.

As a participant in the National Fine Arts Exhibit program, the Carlson Boys & Girls Club Unit may submit members' artwork in four age divisions and 10 categories, including watercolor, pastel, oil, acrylic and collage. Selected artwork will be screened at the regional level and a limited number will be sent to BGCA's Atlanta headquarters for judging at the national level. Thirty-seven national winners will be named and their artwork displayed at special events throughout the year.

Winning artists will also receive an engraved plaque and letter of congratulations from BGCA President Roxanne Spillett. Regional finalists will receive a certificate of participation.

Located at 1028 Evans Avenue in Machesney Park, the Carlson Unit has served the youth of Loves Park and Machesney Park for nearly 40 years. The Club provides programs for local youth in the areas of character and leadership development, educational enhancement, career preparation, health and life skills, the arts and sports, fitness and recreation.

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