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For Immediate Release:

KQ Students Participate in School Daze Project

King and Queen County students were able to showcase their creativity by participating in the School Daze Public Art Project through the King and Queen Community Development Corporation (KQCD). Central High School art teacher, Julie Carter, led a group of thirteen students who created a mascot theme inspired desk. The Central High School desk features a painted paper mache tiger that sits in the seat of the desk. The desk is painted white with the initials "CHS" and tiger prints spread all over the desk. Nine Lawson-Marriott Elementary students guided by their art teacher, Jonathan Walsh, designed a desk that features a frog, turtle, lizard and lily pads. This desk also functions as a working water fountain.

Public Art Project Committee Member, Elizabeth Christeller, commented, "The committee wanted to be sure to invite local County school children to be involved in this project. This was a great opportunity for the students to work together to create pieces of public art that will be showcased in the coming months in our local communities." The KQCD Board of directors, led by Wallica Gaines, President, provided \$100 stipends to each school to help with expenses of supplies needed for the desk sculptures.

While the desks were first publically exhibited at the Wine and Art Festival at Locust Grove on June 14th, the sculptures will be exhibited at other area locations throughout the coming months in West Point, King and Queen, Essex and Tappahannock. Look for desks at the Aylett Country Day School Fair, Community Pride Day in King and Queen at Central High School on October 18th and the Robinson/Olsson Auditorium and Fine Arts Center in West Point October 21st through the 25th. Themes for the desk sculptures include a wide range from school related to quilting to aviation to river and wildlife. The project will conclude with a gala event in spring 2009 where the desk sculptures will be auctioned off as a fundraiser for KQCD and the Marriott School Restoration Project. The Marriott School Restoration Project is the planned renovation of the Marriott School into a community/cultural arts center for residents of King and Queen County and the Middle Peninsula. Business sponsorships are available in support of the public art project and include participation as a desk sculpture sponsor and as a table sponsor at the future gala event. To date sponsors for the School Daze Project include: Ball Lumber, Country Courier, International Training, Inc., Scott's Store, West Point Glass and West Point Pharmacy.

If you would like more information or would like to participate in or volunteer with the School Daze Public Art Project, please contact the KQCD office at 804-769-9656 or email schooldaze@kqcd.org. If you are interested in sponsoring Central High School's desk, Lawson-Marriott Elementary School's desk or another desk sculpture, please contact the KQCD office. For more information about KQCD and the Marriott School Restoration Project, please visit www.kqcd.org.

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