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**Immediate Release**

## Preschool Art Exhibit Captures Possibilities of Young Artists

The Boys Town National Research Hospital Preschool for children with hearing loss provides a variety of art experiences as part of their wholistic approach for developing the potential of each child. On Friday, April 30, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., preschoolers will share their creations through an art exhibit at the Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, located at 724 South 12th Street. The event is free and open to the community.

Guests will enjoy refreshments and interpretive music and dance by actor Jill Anderson. A special giving tree will encourage donations for the purchase of specific items needed to enhance the preschool program. Patrons may make a donation to the preschool program by selecting a gift of their choice from the tree.

The art exhibit will showcase textured hand-made paper, snow paintings and personal portraits. The artwork, created under the direction of Art Therapist, Jill Dibbern Manhart, represents preschool learning experiences such as creating texture, changing colors and cutting shapes.

"The preschool program focuses on developing strong communication skills by providing children with sign and spoken language options," said Catherine Carotta, Ed.D., Associate Director, Lied Learning and Technology Center. "The program fosters communication development through arts related experiences, state-of-the-art listening technology, and current early childhood practices."

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The Boys Town Preschool is located at the Lied Learning and Technology Center, 425 North 30<sup>th</sup> Street, next to Boys Town National Research Hospital. The Monday-Friday morning program, for children 3-5 years of age, is taught by experienced early childhood educators. If you have questions about the preschool or would like information about enrolling your child in the program, call 452-5000.

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