FAIRHOPE, ALA, October 10, 2013 - - One of the highlights at 61st Annual Arts & Crafts Festival, an Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce event, was the special activities presented at the artist dinner. Not only did the best artists and craftsmen receive awards for their works, art students at local schools competed for a $500 prize for the best art panel representing Fairhope.

Schools that submitted pieces were from: Daphne Middle School, Daphne High School, Fairhope High School, Fairhope Middle School, Spanish Fort High School, Spanish Fort Middle School and Bayside Academy. The art panels were hung on the walls of the Fairhope Civic Center for the festival artists and craftsmen to view and be judged. Each exhibitor in the Arts & Crafts Show was given a ballot. The theme this year was “Bay Breeze”.

The winner of the first place award went to Fairhope High School, which included a $250 cash prize. Second place went to Bayside Academy for a $150 cash prize and third went to Spanish Fort Middle School, which received $100. Honorable Mentions were Daphne Middle School and Bayside Academy. The award money, which was donated by Segers Aero Corporation, will go to help fund the schools’ art programs.

The winning art panels created by the students will be on display for a year at Andreé’s Wine & Cheese.

The 62nd Annual Arts & Crafts Festival is scheduled for March 14, 15, & 16, 2014. For more information call 621-8222.

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(Pictured, left to right, Juli Day, Bayside Academy; Julie Arnett, Segers Aero Corporation; Lynda Williams, Fairhope High School; Janet Utsey, Spanish Fort Middle School; Jaca McLaren, co-chair of the Arts & Crafts Festival; and Mary Greg, chairman of the student art contest.

(Photo: Jackie Pate, volunteer of the Arts & Crafts Festival; Amy Pluckett, Fairhope High art teacher; Lynda Williams, Fairhope High art teacher and Mary Gregg, chairman of the artists dinner for the Arts & Crafts Festival.)