



Press photos by Sharon Stabley

Angel Servellon, 18, left, used a photo reference and muted colors for his painting of the monument at the former site of Atlantic City High School. Sarah Louxz, 17, chose the view outside her window, which overlooks Bader Field.

Students' art to hang in City Hall

By **ELAINE ROSE**
Staff Writer, (609) 272-7215

ATLANTIC CITY — When 17-year-old Sarah Louxz has a hard day at school, she likes to relax by looking out her bedroom window at a park, the inlet and the baseball stadium.

So when the Atlantic City High School senior was commissioned to paint a picture to hang in City Hall, she said she chose to reproduce that view.

"I just set up my easel next to a little corner and painted away," she said.

The result is a bright-colored, folk-artsy rendition of the scene at sunset, and Louxz received \$300 for her work.

Louxz and classmate Angel Servellon were selected to produce paintings for what the

Arts Commission revives tradition, authorizes paintings of cityscape

Atlantic City Arts Commission hopes will be an annual event to beautify the city while rewarding students for their work, commission chairman Lennox Warner said.

"The Arts Commission wants to go back to the tradition of commissioning artwork for the city," the group's original purpose, Warner said in a ceremony to unveil Servellon and Louxz's works and present them with the checks for their efforts.

ACHS art teacher Jennifer Pullman said she submitted the work of six students to the commission, and the members picked Servellon

and Louxz. They did not see the students' names, to avoid any bias in the judging.

The commission wanted to give the students a feel for how artists are paid in the real world, Pullman said. The only stipulation for the commissioned works was that the paintings had to be neighborhood-oriented.

Servellon chose muted colors for his painting of the monument at the site of the former high school because he wanted it to look realistic. He took a photograph of the monument and then it on the 22- by 30-inch canvas with acrylic paint, he said.

"I really like statues and monuments a lot," and that was the inspiration for the piece, Servellon said.

Louxz said she had one other reason for choosing to paint the view out her bedroom window.

"This is kind of my protest against building casinos on Bader Field," she said. "This is such a wonderful view, and I hope it makes everyone more peaceful."

The paintings now belong to the Arts Commission but will be on permanent loan to City Hall, Warner said. It is not yet known exactly where in City Hall they will be displayed.

To e-mail Elaine Rose at The Press:

ERose@pressofac.com

MONDAY, JUN 9, 2008