January 2006

Dear Principal:

The Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) is hosting the Eleventh Annual Recognition Banquet to honor Connecticut's outstanding high school visual and performing arts students. The banquet is being sponsored by the Westfield Corporation, a leading international shopping center developer with fifty-two super regional centers across the United States and Australia. Westfield's four Shopping towns are: Connecticut Post, Enfield, Meriden and Trumbull.

The recognition dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2006, at the Aqua-Turf in Southington. We invite you to select two outstanding seniors who excel in the performing and/or visual arts programs, i.e., art, dance, drama, music. Students may be selected from one or any of the inclusive art forms. The criteria for selection is as follows:

CRITERIA: Each school may select two outstanding performing and/or visual arts seniors.

EXPLANATION: Outstanding ability in the performing and visual arts is of primary importance in making your selection. Although scholarship achievement is not a basic criterion for this award, it is suggested that it be considered when a decision needs to be made if there are multiple students with comparable ability in the visual or performing arts. A student's sex should not be a consideration. The awards can go to students of either sex or students of the same sex.

SELECTION COMMITTEE: At least one school administrator and the school's performing and visual arts teachers should serve as the selection committee.

The honorees will receive plaques for excellence and distinguished service to their schools, and they will be treated to dinner as the guests of CAS and the Westfield Corporation.

This year, all High School Arts Banquet registrations must be completed on-line. To register, visit the Member School area of the CAS website at <http://www.casciac.org/memberschools/> and enter your School Number and Login ID (this information is on your membership card). Once you have successfully logged in, select "Submit High School Arts Banquet" from the list of options, press the "continue" button and fill in the required information. and hit "submit." You will receive an immediate email response to confirm your reservation was submitted properly. Please contact Janice Grecco at 203-250-1111 ext. 3003 with any questions.

School personnel and family members are invited to attend this celebration. The cost is \$35 per person. Each school may reserve tables of up to 10 or 12 for its honorees and others attending. Schools will be seated in the order that their applications are received. An early response will determine your school's seating location. The deadline for registering online for this banquet is **March 15, 2006**.

A nationally recognized and prominent figure in the ARTS will be selected as the keynote speaker, and a well-known radio or TV personality will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

Art Teachers:

Please refer to the Art Exhibit Form if one of your honorees is a visual arts student. Their <u>2D</u> art work will be displayed the night of the Arts Banquet.

Sincerely,

Maureen Berescik, Chair CAS Arts Committee