

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **BFF invests in local youth opportunities in the arts**

BFF, a local nonprofit dedicated to supporting the arts, is reaching beyond Benson and in to the community by sponsoring art filled opportunities for our creative Omaha-area youth. This year BFF set a goal to increase their youth outreach and engagement, even creating an entire committee dedicated solely to doing just that: *Youth Outreach*. The most notable outreach has been the addition of a youth activity table at the monthly Artist Market, every first Friday, May - September.

Behind the scenes, BFF has cooked up some even more exciting opportunities:

### **Youth Scholarship -**

For student pursuing a trade, associate's, or bachelor's degree in the fine, performing, or musical arts.

*Award:* \$500 to be applied towards books and supplies

*Deadline:* September 15, 2019

*More info and how to apply:* <http://www.bffomaha.org/scholarship.html>

### **Youth Public Art Project -**

Two Omaha-area high schoolers will have a chance to create a public art mural on the west side of Ted & Wally's ice cream shop in Benson. Open to all Omaha-area high school Juniors and/or Seniors.

*Deadline:* September 3, 2019

*More info and how to apply:* <http://www.bffomaha.org/public-art.html>

"As BFF keeps growing, we are excited to keep seeing more and more youth present at our events and within our community spaces. And so naturally, we are trying to provide more and more opportunities within BFF for this younger crowd." says BFF Co-Founder and Executive Director, Alex Jochim. "Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and generous community partners we can expand to provide such programming. Stay tuned for an increasing amount of youth opportunities from BFF."



*Youth Art Exhibition at Petshop Gallery. Photo Credit: Emerald Photo Co.*

BFF believes that by providing art opportunities and partnering with local schools and area youth organizations, we can create a safe environment filled with education, opportunity, and unique experiences for all ages. One such partner blooming this summer is with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Midlands. Big Brothers Big Sisters is one of BFF's monthly Artist Market partners, committed to providing youth engagement activities every first Friday. This Saturday in Benson Park, BFF will be providing youth activities at Big Brothers Big Sisters' Annual picnic, including artwork that will later be hung in a local Benson gallery this fall.

**About BFF** BFF is dedicated to supporting the region's emerging and established artists by creating opportunity, exposure, and experiences that help them move forward while enriching the cultural competency of the Greater Omaha Area. [www.bffomaha.org](http://www.bffomaha.org)