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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Edward Hopper House Art Center announces recipients of the Fifth Annual Scholarship for Artistic Curiosity**

*“This will help make my dream come true... I am so thankful and extremely glad for what you guys did for me. You changed my life forever*.” --2010 Award Recipient

The Edward Hopper House Art Center announces its fifth annual Scholarship for Artistic Curiosity. This award is given to high school juniors from each of the 10 public high schools in Rockland County.  The schools’ guidance counselors choose the recipients, with recommendations from the art, music, and English teachers.

The program was started in 2010 by then Edward Hopper House trustee Victoria Hertz as a way to recognize creative high school juniors as they begin preparations for college and beyond. The objective is to encourage these talented students to maintain their creative inclinations and consider pursuing careers in the arts. Each student receives a $100 award plus a five-year membership at the Edward Hopper House. The award has been generously underwritten since the beginning by Mary Ekmalian.

The ideal candidate is a student who, like Edward Hopper, exhibits unique creative sensibilities and follows his or her own artistic path—whether in fine arts, music, or writing. This may involve a non-traditional process, or the use of innovative media, and having the aptitude to give artistic expression to his/her vision.

**The recipients of this year’s awards are:**

Skyela Bussey - Suffern

Anthony Cona – North Rockland

Stephen Coopersmith - Nanuet

Katelyn Dowd – Pearl River

Wendy Estrella – Nyack

Justine Gizzi – North Rockland

Caitlyn Litaker – Clarkstown South

Jacqueline Manzano – Ramapo

Angelica Ranallo – Tappan Zee

Elaine Tram – Clarkstown North

Karla Urgiles – Spring Valley

Edward Hopper House will host a reception for the recipients and their friends and families in June.

**About Edward Hopper House:** Edward Hopper House is the birthplace of renowned American artist Edward Hopper (1882-1967) and was his primary residence until 1910. Since 1971 the Edward Hopper House has been a not-for-profit art center with a mission to preserve Edward Hopper’s birthplace and to encourage community engagement with the arts. The house is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. **For press images and additional information contact:** Carole Perry, Executive Artistic Director: [info@hopperhouse.org](mailto:caroleperry@edwardhopperhouse.org) - 845-358-0774.

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