June 17, 2013

In the media: *Sac State graduate art student creating 1,000 bowls to feed the hungry*, CBS13

In the media: *Art to feed more than the soul*, KCRA Ch. 3

In the media: *Artist’s bowls put a positive spin on hunger*, Sacramento Bee

**Bowls exhibit produces results for local charities**

A Sacramento State student’s effort to raise money to help feed the hungry is already bearing fruit. Sacramento State art student Christopher Thompson spent a year-and-a-half making 1,000 ceramic bowls as part of his master’s of studio art program, and to benefit three groups that provide food for local residents in need.

During a one-day only exhibit Saturday, June 15, in the Alumni Center of all 1,000 bowls, Thompson sold enough of the shallow vessels to contribute at least $1,000 each to Loaves and Fishes, Senior Gleaners and Meals on Wheels.

The bowls were arranged on tables that filled the Alumni Center’s banquet room, with more lined up on tables and the ground outside on the patio.

When the day was done, Thompson had sold 125 of the bowls he made from start to finish. Another 31 he made by collaborating with other artists were tagged for pre-sale. All of the remaining bowls will be exhibited, and available for sale, at a dozen galleries throughout the region during July 13 Second Saturday celebrations.

“There’s still a whole mess of collaboration bowls,” Thompson says. “I expect them to sell very well.”

He handmade each bowl and put the exterior glaze on all of them. The interior glazing was a shared project, with friends, fellow artists and gallery patrons participating in the work on more than 500 bowls. “The collaborations are all about giving the project a louder voice,” Thompson says.

Each bowl is unique, featuring deep, rich colors and eye-catching patterns.

The bowls will cost between $50 and $100 depending on the size. Gallery owners are taking a reduced commission and Thompson will get just enough to cover
the cost of the clay and reimburse Sac State for the use of its facilities for part of the work. If all the bowls sell, Thompson estimates it could raise $50,000 to be divided among the three charities.

The bowls will be exhibited at Atelier 20, Blue Moon Gallery, E Street Studios, Fusion International Arts Center, Gallery 2110, The Adamson Gallery, The Brick House Gallery and The Temp – all in Sacramento. Exhibits are also scheduled for Art-O-Culture, Marysville; Carmichael Presbyterian Church and Sacramento Fine Arts Center, Carmichael; and McKinley’s Frame Shop, Lodi.

For more information on the exhibit, visit Thompson’s Facebook page. For media assistance, call Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6156.

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