

## Elena Mazzeo, Artist, Honored By Mayor



Elena Mazzeo, a 9th grade student at Hillsborough High School, was honored with a proclamation at the March 9th Township Committee meeting for her artistic success. Elena created a beautiful pastel piece of art at Hillsborough Middle School, which was selected by ArtWorks, for their "Express Yourself" exhibit at the Montclair Art Museum. Elena enjoys being creative and in her own words has said "I love creating art....art helps me to express myself and be creative".

ArtWorks, a non profit organization provides children battling chronic and life threatening illnesses access to creative and performing arts programs. Elena's work was chosen to be part of ArtWorks traveling art show and NYC benefit in the Fall of 2015, and would be auctioned with proceeds benefitting ArtWork's children's programs. Elena's artwork received a winning bid of \$1,600, which will fund an entire summer ArtWorks program.

Additionally, Elena was asked to model by the National Down Syndrome Society; an organization which advocates for value, acceptance and inclusion of people with Down Syndrome.

March 21, 2016 is World Down Syndrome Day, this date was selected because the 21st day of the 3rd month, signifies the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down Syndrome.

***Pictured Above: Mayor Frank DeCore with Elena Mazzeo and her family.***