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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vianney's John Chibnall Chosen for Missouri Fine Arts Academy

St. Louis, Mo. (Feb. 5, 2009) St. John Vianney High School junior John Chibnall Jr. has been selected to attend the Missouri Fine Arts Academy this summer.

John is one of just 200 high school artists selected statewide to attend the three-week-long residential academy at Missouri State University. The academy offers artistically gifted students the chance to improve their skills in the fields of music, theater, dance and the visual arts.

At Vianney, John performs in theater productions, plays clarinet in the band and produces impressive artwork. "We knew John was an excellent candidate for the academy, but we weren't sure in which discipline to enter him – he excels in all three," said Al Book, who teaches drama and directs Vianney theater productions.

John chose to apply for the academy in the visual arts arena, much to the pleasure of Vianney art teacher Colleen Judge. "John has an innate sense of design. His work shows a depth and maturity not often seen in high school artists," Judge said.

The arts academy begins June 7 and is taught by university faculty. The curriculum includes focused studies in the student's particular discipline, as well as interdisciplinary artistic studies. The academy is funded by the state of Missouri to encourage young artists and to promote arts education.

John is the son of Joy Chibnall of St. Louis and John Chibnall Sr. of Crestwood.

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PHOTO CAPTION for "VianneyJChibnall": St. John Vianney High School junior John Chibnall was one of just 200 students statewide chosen to attend the Missouri Fine Arts Academy in June. Behind John is some of the artwork he has produced at Vianney.

