

# DAY organizes Guilford Window Painting Around the Green

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Calling all 5th to 8th graders! Want to show off your artistic talents for the whole town? Guilford's Developmental Assets for Youth (DAY), which includes Youth & Family Services, Guilford Library, and Parks & Recreation, is seeking young artists for the upcoming Guilford Window Painting Around the Green.

Individuals and groups up to four children are invited to join this free event to decorate a business window in town with a spring theme. The contest is on Saturday, March 10 between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Everyone participating will meet at on the Green across from the Town Hall at 11 a.m. The rain date is Sunday, March 11.

The goal of this event is to help the town's youth develop by getting them involved and active in the community. DAY's focus is to help develop youth assets-the relationships, opportunities, and personal qualities that young people need to avoid risk and to thrive.

"We want our kids to feel valued and welcomed in the community," said Karolin Regan of Guilford Youth & Family Services. "The more assets that young people have, the less likely they are to get involved in high-risk situations."

Supplies will be provided to the artists. After receiving their supplies, artists will be given an index card with the name of the business and the number of the window they will be painting. No ladders will be needed for the event-all painting will be at a height the children can reach. While a parent or adult must accompany the children, the grown-ups are not allowed to assist kids with their art.

The locations involved include Rituals Spa, Weichert Realtors, Village Barbershop, Guilford Greenery, LLC, Quattro's, Cilantro's, Claywell Jewelers, Guilford Food Center, Lulu's, Trudy's, Edward Jones, Page Hardware, Frank's Package Store, Evergreen Fine Crafts, Guilford Coin Exchange, Purple Bear, Swish, Flutterby, Mix Design, William Raveis, and the Christian Science Reading Room.

"The event is with the support of the Drug Free Community grant. We did receive a large grant from SAMSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) of \$625,000 over five years to increase a drug free community," Regan said.

A first-place prize will be awarded per grade. Windows will be judged on originality, creativity, and team spirit. There will also be a special prize for the window that best displays friendship or community.

To celebrate the event and to present the awards to the certain individuals, all artists will then gather on the Green on March 24 at 10 a.m. for a celebration. Artists will then remove the paint from the windows with supplies provided.

Sketches of what children hope to paint and permission slips are due to Regan by March Wednesday, 7. For more information call 203-453-8047 or email [regank@ci.guilford.ed.us](mailto:regank@ci.guilford.ed.us).

