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**DETROIT KENNEL CLUB LAUNCHES FIRST
YOUTH ARTIST HONORS TO SHOWCASE
LOCAL TALENT AT ANNUAL SHOW**

(Plymouth, Mich.—November 15, 2002) The Detroit Kennel Club has created an opportunity for students to get involved with one of the long-standing institutions in the area—the annual DKC Dog Shows— while sharing their artistic talents with others. The DKC Youth Artist Honors will showcase the work of young talented artists from all over Metro Detroit this March at the annual Dog Shows at Cobo Hall.

This contest is the culmination of a vision by DKC member Ronald Pemberton, who recently passed away. A retired school teacher and art aficionado, Ron had a vision of a program that would encourage students to be challenged to use their artistic talents and then showcase their work at our annual show. It is in his memory that the DKC will present the winning entries in three categories (grades K-4, 5-8, 9-12) with a \$200 savings bond. The top 4 winners in each category will have their work displayed at the Detroit Kennel Club Dog Shows on March 15 and 16, 2003 at Cobo Hall.

Since 1916, the Detroit Kennel Club Dog shows have delighted people from all over the Detroit area and the Midwest in an annual Celebration of Dogs. Each year, over 65,000 people have up-close and personal time with breeders, owners, handlers and over 150 different breeds of dogs. The DKC is committed to creating an environment where people are introduced to and educated to the sport of purebred dogs. Show highlights include confirmation competition, the high-flying antics of the Purina® Dog Chow® Incredible Dog Team, demonstrations by the Michigan State Police Canine Unit, rescue dogs, Animal Planet Rescue Rig, American Kennel Club Agility Trials, specialty retail booths and more. The Detroit Kennel Club Dog Shows are recognized as one of the largest all-breed benched dog shows in North America.

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Entry forms and official rules for the contest are available at the Detroit Kennel Club's official web-site, www.DetroitKennelClub.com.

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