



**Wharton County  
Junior College**

Office of Marketing and Communications  
911 Bolling Highway  
Wharton, Texas 77488

# NEWS RELEASE

Toll free: 1.800.561.9252, ext. 6322

Office: 979.532.6322

Fax: 979.532.6493

## NATURAL SELECTION

*WCJC artists showcase original pieces at 'Nature Studies' exhibit*

WHARTON, TEXAS – From intricate cross-sections of leaves to dramatic sketches of insects, Wharton County Junior College art students will present their more scientific side during their first show of the fall 2015 season.

Deemed “Nature Studies,” the exhibit will be on display at the Wharton County Library beginning in September. WCJC Art Instructor Dianne Curtis said around 10 students from her Drawing I class will participate.

“The purpose of this exhibit is to raise awareness with the students and the community about our art department, to educate the students on the many roles and careers in art today and to teach the students about art exhibits and how to mat their own drawings in a presentable way,” Curtis explained.

By presenting the show at the Wharton County Library instead of on-campus, Curtis believes students will obtain better exposure to the community. This is the second year in a row that the WCJC Art Department has held an exhibit at the library.

Curtis said the show’s theme works closely with the library’s commitment to learning.

“This is a scientific approach to art and it fits in well with educational studies,” she said. “It is important to show the relevance and purpose of art in the world today and in the past.”

By focusing on nature studies – which include detailed sketches of animals, plants and humans – students develop a clearer understanding of the importance of skilled artwork in today’s modern society. Curtis said a cross-sectional diagram drawn by an accomplished artist can present more detailed information to a biology student than a photograph or computer-generated image. Through a drawing, artists can “edit out” unnecessary parts of the object and focus only on the relevant details of what’s being studied, Curtis said.

“Artistic studies of plant and animal species are much easier to understand than a busy photograph and are still used in field books and research,” she said. “This exhibit demonstrates the relevance of art in today’s society and provides us with an opportunity to not only educate our students but also the community about the many diverse roles the artist plays.”

'Nature Studies' will be on display from Sept. 1 to Oct. 31 at the Wharton County Library, 1920 N. Fulton St. in Wharton. For information on the library's hours of operation, call 979-532-8080 or visit: [www.whartonco.lib.tx.us](http://www.whartonco.lib.tx.us)

For more information on WCJC's Art Department, visit the college's website at [www.wcjc.edu](http://www.wcjc.edu)

# # #