Student artists show off works in student union

By Cassie Bloombaum
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Using a varied selection of media, two studio art students present their findings on the common bonds of human- ity in an attempt to evoke the human spirit in their peers in an art exhibit display this month.

Amanda Mucha, a studio art senior, and Gauri Salvi, a studio art and psychology senior, showcase their work in a free show in the Kachina Lounge on the second floor of the Student Union Memorial Center. A reception for the show will be held tomorrow from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The student art show, "Personalysis & Noggins: Bring Yours and Come See Ours," will be open through Feb. 5 and features 21 pieces, including oil paintings, photographs, nude portraits and pen and ink drawings.

The largest piece in the show — a collage Salvi created titled, "What About You?" — encompasses an entire wall and is a collaboration of photographs and words about her subjects.

Salvi said she began large-scale work after inter- viewing 50 stu- dents and faculty members who described them- selves to her in order to portray the simi- larities between humankind.

Salvi said she hopes the work motivates viewers to take a step back and think about life and its opportunities.

"The work is about taking the ini- tiative, seizing the day. We should not be afraid to take chances, and we should not be intimidated by other people because we are more alike than we realize," Salvi said.

Salvi’s six pieces were generally compiled of photographs and char-coal drawings. The majority of the show showcased 15 paintings and drawings by Mucha, which were mostly images of people. "(I work) mostly with portraiture, either from models or self-portraits, and (strive to) express per-sonal creativity and self-accept- ance," Mucha said.

In her colorful oil on canvas painting, "The Old Neighborhood," Mucha said she tried to portray her belief in being one’s self.

Fatti Kelsey, an East Asian stud-ies freshman, has already taken notice of the show and is impressed with the work of her peers.

"The photographs and state-ments are truly thought provok- ing," Kelsey said.

Jasmine Bonner, a psychology freshman, said she was impressed with Mucha’s "The Old Neighborhood."

"The painting shows raw human emotion. We don’t know what the girl (in the painting) is thinking," said Bonner.

Mucha said not all of her paint- ings have a specific meaning, and much is a personal reflection of her feel-ings. "I feel that painting is a way of expressing what you feel," she said. "I think the viewer should take the art as their own and not worry too much about what I’m trying to say."