

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

SIXTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON 25 DC • REpublic 7-4215 extension 247

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C., March 23: John Walker, Director of the National Gallery of Art, announced today that fifteen Pittsburgh high school students, winners of an essay contest in the Pittsburgh school system made possible by a grant from The A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable Trust, will visit the Gallery on Friday. A list of their names and their high schools is attached.

The contest, whose prize winners are being given a four-day trip to Washington as their reward, was designed to stimulate an interest in art among students, and to give them an opportunity to study the collection of the National Gallery of Art. After a month of research, contestants wrote essays, during a special three-hour period, on various Old Masters in the collection of the National Gallery of Art.

The students, accompanied by two teachers, leave Pittsburgh Thursday, March 24. On Friday the Gallery will be their host at lunch, and afterwards they will be given a tour of the collections and allowed to choose reproductions of works they have seen to take back to their schools, as well as some for their own use. Saturday and Sunday will be spent sightseeing, including the White House and Mount Vernon. The group will return to Pittsburgh on Sunday.

(End)