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Contact: Beth McLaughlin, Director of Community & School Affairs, 478-988-6390, ext. 0, Beth.McLaughlin@hcbe.net

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Perry High Teacher Wins Southeastern Regional Art Educator Award



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Perry High School Visual Arts Teacher Cathy Heller has been named the 2020 Southeastern Region Secondary Art Educator by the National Art Education Association (NAEA). The Southeastern Region covers 10 states, plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

This prestigious award is judged through a peer review of nominations. The criteria are based on exemplary contributions, service and achievements of an outstanding NAEA member. Heller will be presented the award during the NAEA National Convention in Minneapolis, Minn., held March 26-28, 2020.

Hannah Robinson, a Perry High junior enrolled in Studio Art Drawing, stated, "Mrs. Heller is an outstanding art teacher that has just as much passion for her students as she does her art. No matter what, she always puts the well-being of her students first and has their best interests in mind. I have been her student for three years and each year I have grown as an artist and as a person because of her teaching and her advice."

NAEA President Thom Knab states, "This award is being given to recognize excellence in professional accomplishment and service by a dedicated art educator. Cathy Heller exemplifies the highly qualified art educators active in education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars, and advocates who give their best to their students and the profession."

Founded in 1947, NAEA is the leading professional membership organization for visual arts educators. Members include elementary, middle, and high school visual arts educators; college and university professors; university students preparing to become art educators; researchers and scholars; teaching artists; administrators and supervisors; and art museum educators—as well as more than 54,000 students who are members of the National Art Honor Society. The mission of NAEA is to advance visual arts education to fulfill human potential and promote global understanding. The Southeastern Region includes: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.

Perry High School is located at 1307 North Avenue in Perry. Principal Wesley "Del" Martin may be reached at 478-988-6298 or Wesley.Martin@hcbe.net. For more information about the association and its awards program, visit the NAEA website at www.arteducators.org.

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