

MURAL

Mural exhibit examines on human cost of war

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of media, and (in the murals), for a split second, are able to see through the 'window,' a reflection of the truth of what is actually going on," said Awartani, who spent most of last spring semester preparing the project through the American Friends Service Committee.

Juniors Courtney Mandeville and Hannah Swenson also contributed to the mural along with Awartani. One of their pieces, "What's Left of Kabul," was chosen to be featured in a peace center in Afghanistan.

Though Windows and Mirrors is a welcome and striking temporary addition to the Guilford campus, some students see another side to the exhibit.

"What Guilford sees as desirable, is also very inflammatory," said sophomore Morgan Eudy. "The goal would be to have the most unbiased view on global events."

Sophomore Michael Frazier has a similar perspective, and referred specifically to the mural titled "The 'Peace' Operations of the U.S. Airstrikes on Weddings," which

includes the number of people killed at weddings from American bombing.

"I think they're using specific examples to over-generalize the entire thing, not to mention its slander to the American name," said Frazier. "They are directly saying that America intentionally bombs weddings."

"I don't think either (Morgan nor I) support the war efforts, it's just a very negative portrayal of American foreign policy," said Frazier.

The mural exhibit is provocative, but that serves to fulfill its ultimate purpose of prompting thought and dialogue over an important issue.

"I don't know what will happen next (to promote peace), but it's about spreading the message until something right is done," said Awartani of the student community's ability to promote positive change. "After all, the war is still very real."

The exhibit will be up through April 15 and then will continue to tour; so be sure to take some time to admire, meditate on, and learn about the artwork that emerged from the destruction of war.



(Clockwise from top) A visitor contemplates the murals in Hege Library during the opening of the Windows and Mirrors mural exhibit on March 25. Faces of victims depicted in the paintings inspire insight into the costs of war. Senior **Zak Wear** studies in the presence of the stories that line the gallery walls. Those involved in the organization and production of the travelling exhibit, including Guilford students, and professors and members of the American Friends Service Committee, gather for a photo of recognition.

PHOTOS BY DARYN LANE/
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