

## **Arts and Entertainment: Talented Arts Program presents 'The Way It Is'**

Written by Sean Green

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Bossier's Talented Arts Program proudly presents "The Way It Is" by Lucile McIntyre. This program is made possible through the Decentralized Arts Funding program awarded by the Bossier Arts Council. Performances will be held at Bossier High School Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 23 at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. The performances are free and open to the public. The rating for this show is PG-13 due to the subject matter.

"The Way It Is" is a one act play about the stresses of various teenagers' senior year in high school and the trials they face growing up. The actors discuss an individual student (not present in the show), who lacks the ability to deal with an individual traumatizing event that leads to the student attempting suicide. The message of the performance is clear through the TAP students' portrayal; "nothing is worth giving up your life". The TAP actors are taking a stand showing it is time to break the walls that stand between them, their peers, their teachers, and their parents. Through lengthy research, the students have chosen to reveal statistics to their audiences about suicide, bullying, and inform their audience on how many individuals in Bossier are available for our youth to talk to, confide in, and help them work through the stresses of being a teen in 2013. Bossier counselors and pupil appraisal members will be present at the performances.

The Bossier Talented Arts Program is a state funded program designed to identify and serve the top actors, musicians, and artists identified and tested through the Bossier Parish Schools. Our mission is to guide our youth and prepare them to become professional artists in their designated field. The Decentralized Arts Funding Program is supported in part by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism, in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.

### **Bossier Arts Council and Community Trust Bank present □ Barbara Rushing**

The Bossier Arts Council is thrilled to announce a partnership with Community Trust Bank to feature local artists at two of their banking centers in the Shreveport Bossier area. The premier artist for this partnership is Barbara Rushing whose work will be on display from February through April 2013. The banking centers featuring artwork are the Line Avenue Branch, 3400 Line Ave., Shreveport, and the Bossier City Banking Center, 2790 Airline Dr.

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When asked about her creative process Barbara answered "I love the learning process in art and love color. I recently started taking saxophone lessons. My three children, Dr. Donna Rushing, Mrs. Nancy Hayes of Austin, and Dr. Paul Rushing and nine grandchildren are all supportive of my art shows."

Community Trust Bank's core purpose to Enrich the Lives of People in our Community is realized in this endeavor by showcasing community artists and their talents in a unique environment. This also provides an artistic investment in our community by bring the artwork to the people in our community.

For more information about the Bossier Arts Council call 741-8310 or visit [www.bossierarts.org](http://www.bossierarts.org)