MEMORIAL ART GALLERY STAFFER RECOGNIZED AS EMERGING LEADER

Debora McDell, coordinator of community programs and outreach at the Memorial Art Gallery, was one of 29 area residents honored by the Democrat and Chronicle in a February 12 supplement celebrating “Rochester’s Emerging African-American Leaders.”

In addition to her work at the Gallery, McDell, 36, has volunteered with numerous community organizations, among them the Arts & Cultural Council's Cultural Diversity Committee; the United Way's African American Leadership Program; ArtWalk; the Do the Right Thing Program; Borinquen Dance Theatre, Inc.; Rochester Women's Network; and the American Red Cross Hispanic Youth Leadership Program; Foodlink; and the International Sister Cities of Rochester/Puerto Plata board.

McDell was nominated by Susan Daiss, the Gallery's director of education. Says Daiss, “Ever since high school, Debora has stood out for the quality of her commitment to the community, her thoughtful analytical skills, her exemplary work ethic, and her ability to make things happen. Over the years, she has been involved with the Gallery as a volunteer, as manager of membership services, and now as coordinator of family programming and community outreach.

“Debora has formed and led community advisory committees to plan outstanding cultural family days that regularly attract close to 1,000 visitors. She is universally admired and respected.”