DISCOVER LOCAL ARTISTS

Underdog art

By Christine Davis
Residences Editor

Diane Arrieta, one of the 2008 South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship winners, is exhibiting her series, "Product of My Environment," through Aug. 8 at Florida Atlantic University's John D. MacArthur campus library in Jupiter.

Her works incorporate illustration (both digital and graphite/pencil) with mixed-media objects and video. Arrieta's creations are socially driven and emphasize issues concerning families and children.

She explained, "Whether the issues are drawn from childhood experience or observations made throughout my life, they all have a universal theme of celebrating the underdog or the mistreated, or the struggle of an individual to be him- or herself."

She's interested in street artists because of their social statements and the quick execution of their work: "I believe the concept of the work is more important than the actual technique or medium used to convey it. I admire great artistic talent, but my personality lends itself to a more emotionally driven style of work."

Arrieta strives to create conversation and, possibly, to change minds with her artwork by presenting issues that might be difficult or not normally seen in a gallery.

The FAU MacArthur campus library is at 5353 Parkside Drive, Jupiter. Library hours through Aug. 4 are 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Wednesday; 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday; noon to 10 p.m. Sunday. Beginning Aug. 5, hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday; closed weekends.

For information, call (561) 799-8530.

Works are sold in series of 9; each piece is $250. Above is 'Papertag Girl.'

Above is 'Conditional Mom.'

Above is 'Little Ballerina'; at right: 'Country Club.'