



# JOHN R. KASICH

GOVERNOR • STATE OF OHIO

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## Communication Department

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### **FIRST LADY OF OHIO HOSTS SPRING 2015 "SPOTLIGHT" PROGRAM** ***Celebrates Northeast Ohio Artist's Work at Governor's Residence in Bexley***

COLUMBUS – Ohio First Lady Karen W. Kasich, along with artists and other special guests from across the state celebrated the spring installment of *Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor's Residence*. This quarter's featured artist, JoAnn DePolo of North Olmsted, and Mrs. Kasich provided remarks during the reception held yesterday afternoon at the Governor's Residence in Bexley.



"JoAnn's cityscapes are so vibrant. Her bright, strong brushstrokes create texture and movement that capture the energy of Cleveland," said Mrs. Kasich. "I also think it's wonderful that she shares her time and talent with others to help them develop and express their creative gifts."

DePolo, a contemporary acrylic painter and author of *Making It As An Artist*, will have her work on exhibit at the Governor's Residence through June. A self-taught artist, Depolo also provides fine-art painting classes, creative workshops, and space for artists to teach at her North Olmsted studio and gallery.

"This exhibit is a preview from my Cleveland Collection, scheduled to be unveiled later this year. It is an honor for me to be selected and bring Cleveland into the "Spotlight" at the Ohio Governor's Residence," said DePolo. "I am excited to participate in this program, which recognizes the importance of building community strength through the arts in Ohio,"

Mrs. Kasich was inspired to create the "[Spotlight](#)" program as a way to help promote the wealth of artistic talent in Ohio. The program, developed in partnership with the Ohio Arts Council and launched in September 2013, features the works of one selected Ohio artist each quarter at the Ohio Governor's Residence and Heritage Garden.

In addition to celebrating the spring installment of the Spotlight program, the First Lady noted to guests that other Ohio artists have their works on display year-round at the Governor's Residence, most of which are on loan from various museums around the state. "These pieces add warmth and a cultural perspective to the Residence," she said.

Learn more about the Spotlight program and other initiatives of First Lady Kasich at [firstlady.ohio.gov](http://firstlady.ohio.gov). Ohio artists interested in the Spotlight program should contact Ken Emerick, with the Ohio Arts Council at [kenemerick@oak.state.oh.us](mailto:kenemerick@oak.state.oh.us). Examples of JoAnn DePolo's work can be viewed at [joanndepolo.net](http://joanndepolo.net)

