## Heritage University

3240 Fort Road • Toppenish, WA 98948 (509) 865-8500

Date: September 24, 2015

**Contact:** David Mance, Media Relations Coordinator, 509-969-6084 or <u>mance d@heritage.edu</u>.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Heritage University Art Students' Artwork to Beautify Downtown Yakima

Yakima, Wash. – Five art students from Heritage University are among the artists from the Yakima Valley chosen through a selective jurying process, who are contributing artwork to "Windows Alive!" an annual downtown Yakima beautification project now in its third year.

"Empty windows in unoccupied storefronts send a message that isn't very positive," says Cheryl Hahn of Yakima, chairperson for Windows Alive! "The idea behind 'Windows Alive!' is to fill those storefront windows with beautiful art and create a more engaging and vibrant environment downtown," says Hahn.

Gregory Pierce, chair of the Fine Arts department at Heritage University says he's excited for the exposure the project will bring to the students and their artwork. "Not only will downtown Yakima benefit from their beautiful contributions, Windows Alive! will give the students a platform to showcase the artistic skills they've developed while studying art at Heritage."

This year's Windows Alive! project will be unveiled Friday, October 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the monthly downtown event called "First Friday." The students' artwork will be among the others on display through January 29, 2016.

For more information, contact Gregory Pierce at (509) 865-8456.

# # #

*Heritage University is a non-profit, independent, regionally accredited institution of higher education offering undergraduate and graduate education across the state of Washington. Visit our website, <u>www.heritage.edu</u>.*