

First Light illuminates the city

Eagle-Tribune
Dec. 21, 2003

The nonprofit group Groundwork Lawrence kicked off its First Light event Friday night at Essex Art Center in Lawrence with a silent auction and raffle.

Several local artists have designed lanterns from wood, iron and stained glass that function as an attractive ornament and a working lantern. The event will end on New Year's Eve with a

free lantern-making open to the public, followed by a lantern march down Essex Street.

Groundwork Associate Director Maggie Super said First Light started three years ago and is based on a yearly community event in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood of Boston.

Proceeds from Friday's auction are split between Groundwork Lawrence and the artist.



Gwendolyn Lanier, 17, of Lawrence looks on as her sister, Tameria, 16, lights lanterns.

OLIVIA GATTI/Staff photos



The silhouettes of lanterns created by several artists for First Light and a volunteer are seen at Essex Art Center.