Two art majors materialize joint thesis plans

By Cathy Nabity

Art majors Margarita Axiotes and Johnna Marcell of Omaha decided, half-jokingly, their sophomore year that they would present their senior thesis together.

Their plans materialized Wednesday night at the gallery opening of their Bachelor of Fine Arts thesis show.

The opening reception for the show, which includes several very impressive drawings and paintings by Axiotes and Marcell, attracted a large crowd.

"This show is a record of our progress," Axiotes said. "Our works complement each other a lot."

The artists have worked together closely since the beginning of their college careers.

"We met in a basic drawing class," Marcell said. "We had three classes together freshman year."

Axiotes and Marcell soon found that their art major, which they declared within one month of each other during sophomore year, is not the only thing they have in common. Axiotes, who attended Westside High School, and Marcell, who attended Duchesne, have lived on the same street for years.

Recently both artists received half-tuition scholarships to schools in Chicago, where they will each pursue Masters of Fine Arts, they said.

Axiotes said she will attend the Chicago Art Institute and that she eventually wants to work in "commercial visual communication, but not necessarily graphics."

Marcell said that after she attends the University of Chicago she would like to teach as a college professor and continue doing art.

A highlight of the show is a large canvas wall hanging titled "No respect for authority," a spontaneous piece the artists created together over Christmas break.

The show is free and open to the public through April 25 in Room 212 of the Fine Arts Building.

Marcell (left) and Axiotes show off a piece prior to their Wednesday night opening in the Fine Arts gallery.