



PRESS RELEASE

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RAM’s Wustum Museum of Fine Arts Hosts 46th Year of Watercolor Wisconsin

Racine, WI December 5, 2012

On December 9, 2012, RAM’s Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts continues a longstanding Racine tradition with the opening of *Watercolor Wisconsin 2012*. As one of the museum’s most popular annual shows, this exhibition brings together the works of artists from throughout the state. Featuring 119 pieces by 86 artists from communities in all corners of Wisconsin, this year’s show will be on view at RAM’s Wustum Museum through April 27, 2013.

Organized by the museum since 1966, *Watercolor Wisconsin* exhibitions have established RAM’s Wustum Museum as a center for watercolor activity in the Midwest. Encouraged to experiment and explore all the possibilities of painting on paper, the artists in the show have created works as diverse as their own imaginations. Online entry has continued to expand the diversity of cities represented. *Watercolor Wisconsin 2012* includes artists from as near as downtown Racine, and as far as Lac du Flambeau, with growing numbers from the Madison and Milwaukee areas.

Of 287 pieces submitted by 163 artists, approximately one-third of the pieces were chosen for this year’s show. Three new works from this year’s competition will be purchased for the Racine Art Museum’s permanent collection, adding to RAM’s holdings of extraordinary Wisconsin artists. The museum’s Curator of Collections makes these choices. Cash and merchandise prizes will also be awarded on December 9 to the artists whose pieces are selected as the best in the show by the jurors.

Exhibiting Artists by Wisconsin Community: Appleton: Gary Hanks; **Bayside:** Judith Gahn Murphy; **Brookfield:** Christine Buth-Furness, Julia F. McMurray, Jean Pascek, Janet Roberts; **Burlington:** David Jewell; **Caledonia:** Nancy Neider; **Cedarburg:**

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Nancy Arcara, Patrick Doughman, Bruce Hustad, **Deerfield:** Irene Olson; **Delafield:** Laura Ibbotson; **Delavan:** Jenny Knavel, Sandra Willard; **East Troy:** Sandra Kessel; **Fontana:** Kathy Walsh; **Fox Lake:** Judith Beyer; **Fox Point:** Patricia Neibor; **Franksville:** Sue Horton; **Germantown:** Mary Boettcher; **Glendale:** Pat Hidson; **Grafton:** Jean Crane; **Greendale:** John Vlaj; **Hartford:** Harold E. Hansen; **Kenosha:** Carolyn Gagliardi, Don Hinrichs, Sande Jensen, Diane Levesque, Helen Napier, Amy Misurelli Sorensen, Jean Tenuta, Rebecca Venn, Jil Wilson; **Lac du Flambeau:** Christine Alfery; **Madison:** Kathy Armstrong, Randal Feig, Linda Hancock, Madge MacFarlane, Brian McCormick, Cynthia Quinn; **Marshfield:** Laura Nelke; **Mequon:** Lois Buley-Wirth, Jeanne Corrao, Jan Effinger, Kathleen Nelson, Kitty Sturrock, Constance Taagen; **Milwaukee:** Joyce Eesley, Sue Haislmaier, Pat King, Madeline Martin, Gene Mihleisen, Elizabeth Falter Minz, JoAnna Poehlmann, Jerome Smentek, Leslie Vansen, Priscilla Weissenfluh, Pat Zandron; **Mount Pleasant:** Robert W. Andersen; **Muskego:** Terry A. Fischer; **Nashotah:** Alice Rossman; **Nekoosa:** Thomas Wright; **North Prairie:** Margaret Schumann; **Oconomowoc:** Marilu McCartney, Pat Siok; **Oshkosh:** Joye Moon, Maxine Nobbe; **Pleasant Prairie:** June Ambro; **Racine:** Jerrold D. Belland, Rick Berns, Russell Bohn, Karen Brittain, Rosemary Curtin, Doug DeVinny, Deedee Dumont, Mary Dwyer, Lisa Englander, Nancy Greenebaum, Ann Henkes, Glenn Hickson, Suzanne Kadamian, Edwin C. Kalke, Paula Kalke, Barbara Kukla, Ann R. Shaffer, Connie Sharp, Lin Somogyi, Maggie Venn, Sue Wolff; **Rubicon:** David Bielot; **Salem:** Harry Wirth; **Sheboygan:** Gayle Meves; **Thiensville:** William Davis; **Waukesha:** Bruce Boeck, Peggy Thurston Farrell; **Wausau:** Diane Shabino; **Wauwatosa:** Carolyn Kenney-Carter; **Whitefish Bay:** Beth Costello, Anne Miotke; **Whitewater:** Linda Tump; **Williams Bay:** Joan Franzen, Lynne Railsback

Experts from outside the state jury each annual competition, selecting the works to be included, as well as the awards. Richard A. Born and Jessica J. Caddell chose the 119 pieces by 86 Wisconsin artists that are represented in *Watercolor Wisconsin 2012*. Born is senior curator at The David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, The University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. During the four decades of his career, Born has supervised the conception, organization, implementation and installation of more than 110 loan, touring, or permanent collection exhibitions. Caddell is executive director at the Freeport Art Museum in Freeport, Illinois. Previously, Caddell served as curator at the Rockford Art Museum in Rockford, Illinois.

The opening reception for *Watercolor Wisconsin 2012* will be held at RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts on Sunday, December 9 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. During the reception, Bruce W. Pepich, Executive Director and Curator of Collections will host the awards presentation beginning at 2:30 pm. Refreshments will be served.

This exhibition is made possible by: Presenting Sponsors - Karen Johnson Boyd and William B. Boyd, Emile H. Mathis II Estate, in Memory of his Parents: Emil H. and Anna T. Mathis, RAM Society Members, S.C.



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Together, the two campuses of the Racine Art Museum, RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts at 2519 Northwestern Avenue, seek to elevate the stature of contemporary crafts to that of fine art by exhibiting significant works in craft media with painting, sculpture and photography, while providing outstanding educational art programming.

Docent led contemporary craft and architectural tours of the museums are available. Both campuses of the Racine Art Museum, are open Tuesday – Saturday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, and are closed Mondays, Federal holidays and Easter. RAM is open Sunday Noon – 5:00 pm, while Wustum is closed Sundays. An admission fee of \$5 for adults, with reduced fees for students and seniors, applies at RAM. Admission to Wustum is free. Members are always admitted without charge to either campus.