



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The RAM 7th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition is BIGGER and Better Than Ever**

Racine, WI March 17, 2016

Within the pristine white walls of the Racine Art Museum, an untraditional exhibition showcasing fluffy, sugar-coated marshmallow PEEPS is open through Sunday, April 3. The **RAM 7th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition** features 123 entries that demonstrate the talent of over 154 artists.

This spring, visitors will discover creations like Peep Kong Attacks Racine showcasing the city's architecture, Peepstarts with their own toaster, and an entry from local Girl Scout Troop 9113 entitled Peepdora. Many entries were by regional artists, however a few arrived from Green Bay, Madison, and as far away as New York.

During the Artist Reception and Awards Ceremony on the evening of Thursday, March 17, Bruce W. Pepich, RAM Executive Director and Curator of Collections, hosted the awards presentation to honor the most accomplished artists in this competition.

Congratulations to:

**Adult Category**

- First Peep - Dyan Tishuk, *Four & Twenty Black Peeps*
- Second Peep - Karen Chartrand, *Horton Hears A Peep*
- Honorable Mentions -
- Lynn Proeber, *Peeps Clown Bus*
- Bailey Rigby, *Polly Wanna Peep*

**Under 12 Category**

- First Peep - Tessa Locklair, *RaPeepsel*
- Honorable Mention - Zoe Chartrand, *Wall-E On Top of a Garbage Peep*

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**Family/Group/Organization Category**

First Peep - The Paffrath Family, *It's A Marshmallow World*

Second Peep - Brodie and Tom Spolar, *Shpeeps*

Honorable Mention - David Buchanan and Linda Christian, *Georgia O'PEEP's Studio*

**Mayor's Awards**

First Peep - Debby Peck, *Purple Peep Eater*

Second Peep - Jeff Ternes, *Peep.B.S.*

**New Media Awards - Fiber**

Jim Deibler and Staff, *Peep Mobile*

Jan Lancelin, *Edible Peeps Flower*

**Artistic Award** Ann Henkes, *Peeps - Honoring Louise Nevelson*

**Director's Award** Holly Ottum, *PEEPSurse*

**Founder's Award** Hilary Rinke, *Invasion of the Peep Snatchers*

Visitors to the museum are encouraged to vote for their favorite PEEPS work of art to decide who will take home the coveted PEEPl'es Choice Award. Voting continues through Sunday, April 3.

Competition sponsored by Racine Art Museum Store and Guest Relations.

The RAM 7th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition is made possible by Peeps Patrons - Johnson Outdoors Inc., Buckets Pub, Joey's on Sixth, Just Born, Inc., Kewpee Sandwich Shop, Bruce W. Pepich and Lisa Englander, Sew 'n Save of Racine, Jim and Cherry Wardrip, Nancy Wheeler, Wilton; Peeps Prize Providers - Apple Holler, Art Metals Studio, Copacetic, Downtown Racine Corporation, Funky Hannah's, Harbor Lite Yacht Club, Lakeview Pharmacy, Miller's Flowers, Northern Lights Gallery, Office of the Mayor, City of Racine, Plumb Gold Ltd., The Racine Zoological Society, Red Onion Café, RG Babies, Sugar Shack Sweet Shoppe, Uncorkt

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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.