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**The Racine Art Museum Announces  
2016 Artist Fellowship Winners**

Racine, WI March 9, 2016

The Racine Art Museum is pleased to announce the four recipients of the RAM Artist Fellowships awards. Sponsored by a grant from the Osborne and Scekcic Family Foundation, the RAM Artist Fellowship Program aims to showcase the diversity and vitality of the Racine/Kenosha visual arts community. Now in its third round, this biennial selection program supports the professional development of this region's artists.

Based on the quality of the artwork submitted, four fellowship winners have been selected and represent a range of styles and media. Congratulations to:

**Tim Abel, Kenosha**

"I work primarily with and on paper to make sewn and collaged wall-works and temporary installations. These works visually translate found pattern in natural, man-made structures, contemporary and traditional surface patterns."

**Kristen Bartel, Racine**

"I combine traditional print techniques with drawing, photography and digital media. Concepts in my work stem from my desire to analyze and understand common constructs of success, comfort, beauty and ownership. My work is an attempt at interpreting these constructs in connection to my personal relationships with landscapes and climates."

**Martin Antaramian, Kenosha**

"The inspiration for my artwork comes from the desire to make the world I live in so intricate, and unexpected that it breaks down peoples preconceived notions of what things should look like to the point where they almost need to redefine it. Every single

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object in our world is a sculpture, and I want people to see them as such."

**Lisa Bigalke, Kenosha**

"The overlapping and concentrated use of the pattern puts the viewer into the realm of my journey- for they travel on my journey through the image. Those who look once may just find a pretty landscape; those who get lost in the color and pattern find the meaning."

Each of these four artists will be awarded \$2,500, which may be used for any expenses that will assist in the development of new work and advance their artistic careers, such as equipment and supply purchases, studio rental, and travel.

Concurrent solo featuring each recipient's work will be presented at RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts, August 25 through November 25, 2017. A color brochure will accompany this fellowship show. By increasing critical attention and exposure for recipients, the program fosters their continued creative and professional development. The RAM Artist Fellowship application process will be repeated in 2017, with the next entry deadline in January 2018.

Exhibitions at Racine Art Museum are made possible: Platinum Sponsors - Karen Johnson Boyd and William B. Boyd, SC Johnson, Windgate Charitable Foundation; Diamond Sponsor - Osborne and Scekic Family Foundation; Gold Sponsors - Herzfeld Foundation, Johnson Bank, National Endowment for the Arts, Racine Community Foundation, W. T. Walker Group, Inc.; Silver Sponsors - Racine County, Real Racine, Wisconsin Arts Board; Bronze Sponsors - Burlington Graphic Systems, Inc., EC Styberg Foundation, Educators Credit Union, In Sink Erator, The Norbell Foundation, Orkney Springs Retreat, Rasmussen Diamonds, Ruud Family Foundation, Inc., Wisconsin Public Radio

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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.