



PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****PRESS CONTACT**

Jessica Zalewski  
Marketing and Publications Manager  
262.638.8300  
jzalewski@ramart.org

**The RAM 8th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition  
Winners Announced**

Racine, WI April 6, 2017

Within the pristine white walls of the Racine Art Museum, an untraditional exhibition showcasing fluffy, sugar-coated marshmallow PEEPS® is open through Sunday, April 23. The **RAM 8th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition** features 136 entries that demonstrate the talent of over 202 artists from across the country.

This spring, visitors will discover artworks, made with a variety of media, such as *Jeepers Creepers Where'd You Get Those Peepers* created with Shrinky Dinks®, *Peepin' Clean* with goats milk soap, *Sunday in the Peep: An Exploration of Post-Impressionist Peeptillism* of hole-punched pieces of marshmallow PEEPS, and 40 quilt block entries, including one entitled *Arizona Peep Greets the Sunrise* from Tucson, Arizona. Many of the entries were by local artists, however several arrived from places like Dodgeville, Madison, and as far away as California.

During the Artist Reception and Awards Ceremony on the evening of Wednesday, April 5, 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** – Ann Burke, *Serial Peeps*

**Second Peep** – Kate Fons, *Sunday in the Peep:  
An Exploration of Post-Impressionist Peeptillism*

**Honorable Mention** – Kelly Witte, *Ghostpeepsters*

**Under 13 Category**

**First Peep** – Juliana Picione, *Under the Sea II*

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**Second Peep** – Lillian Holland, *Mt. Peepmore*

**Family/Group/Organization Category**

**First Peep** – Holly and Mike Skubal, *Winnie the Peep and the 100 Aker Wood*

**Second Peep** – Gabe and Jed Johnson, *A Peepriotic 4th of July*

**Honorable Mention** – Alex Lewein, Laura Lewein, and Barb Torres, *Peep Sanctuary*

**Mayor of Racine's Awards**

**First Peep** – Amelia and Nancy Schmidt, *Eat More Rabitz*

**Second Peep** – Emily Proeber, *Meeps*

**Honorable Mention** – David Buchanan and Linda Christian, *Nobel Peeps Surprise*

**Racine Quilters Awards**

**First Peep in Memory of Margaret V. Wargo** – Jan Lancelin, *Untitled*

**Second Peep** – Carol Preston, *Selfies at the Overlook*

**Third Peep** – Deborah Yow, *Peeping Tom*

**Honorable Mentions**

Joyce Blunck, *Hare Raising*

Bev Beyers, *Peep a Little, Talk a Little*

Visitors to the museum are encouraged to vote for their favorite PEEPS work of art to decide who will take home the coveted *PEEPles Choice Award*. Voting continues through the end of the exhibition on Sunday, April 23.

**ARTISTS IN THE EXHIBITION**

**Arizona:** Pat Lenz, Tucson; **California:** Robert Tucker, Rancho Mirage; **Illinois:** Elizabeth Peterson, Chicago, Bridget Lawless, Lake Villa, Alaina Emily Carter, Manhattan, Elizabeth Spannraft, Winthrop Harbor; **North Carolina:** Carol Preston, Pisgah Forest; **Wisconsin – Ashippun:** Kayla Peirick; **Burlington:** Barbara DeFaut; **Caledonia:** Abigail Schmidt, Amelia Schmidt and Nancy Schmidt, Anakin Zimmer, Harrison Averkamp and Veronica Averkamp, Katherine Schmidt, Nicki Zimmer; **Colgate:** Alexandros Tsioutsopoulos, Andy Lumsden and Koko Tsioutsopoulos, Dionisios Tsioutsopoulos, Gabriel Tsioutsopoulos, Kristina Tsioutsopoulos; **Delavan:** David Buchanan and Linda Christian; **Edgerton:** Kelly Hausknecht; **Elkhorn:** Lakeland School Students; **Elmwood Park:** Tracy Koenen; **Franklin:** Karen Fairbanks; **Franksville:** Carolyn Siler, Jan Lancelin, Jerrod Boucher, Lol Boucher, Amber Harty, Diane Norante, Isabella Norante, Kristin Salvhus, and Steve Rhoden, Josiah Lambertson, Lilly Lambertson, Sally Lambertson; **Germantown:** Ian Leonard, Monica Leonard; **Greendale:** Betty Kroll, Michele Dambeck, Susie Jankowski; **Hartland:** Debby Peck; **Kenosha:** Dianna Rozzini, Gabe Johnson and Jed Johnson, Janine

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Rohde, Marie Christenson, Patricia Young, Wanda Barbour; **Madison:** Alex Lewein, Laura Lewein, and Barb Torres, Valerie Grayson; **Milwaukee:** Aden Weisser, Bridget King, Jacob Kittilstad, Juliana Picione, Kate Fons, Kiefer Waterman, Korinthia Klein, Mona Weisser, Nikki Kowbel, Quinn Weisser, Sarah A. Phillips; **Mount Pleasant:** Amaya Holland, Isreonna Holland, and Tricia Zamechik, Ann Gedemer, Ann Richards, Debbie Contreras, Diane Kamm, Karen Chartrand, Laura Chartrand, and Zoe Chartrand, Natalie Deschler and Grandma Linda, Sandy Veit; **Mukwonago:** Sofia Matrise; **Muskego:** Chris Proeber, Emily Proeber, Lynn Proeber; **Oak Creek:** Keely Repinski and Sara Wrecke, Toni Repinski; **Oconomowoc:** Gerald Hoefs; **Pewaukee:** Holly Skubal and Mike Skubal; **Pleasant Prairie:** Alexandria Shea, Bethany Pelc, Patrice Hall, Rosy Shea; **Pleasant Ridge:** Karen Klein; **Port Washington:** Joya Locklair, Tessa Locklair; **Racine:** Abbie Determan and Morgan Determan, Ann Burke, Ann Henkes, Autumn Kyle, Bailey Rigby, Betsy Nyman and Rebecca Nyman, Bill Reid, Bob Ottum, Brenda Roth, Chris Fabio and Destiny Klinkhammer, Deborah Yow, Diane Seymour, Donna Lynn Hansen, Emma Donaldson, Girl Scout Troop 9402 – Bull Fine Arts, Graceland School – Fourth and Fifth Grade (Johnathan Alvarez, Johnathan Antonio, Jade Estrada, Julian Estrada, Dianara Felician, Qiyarah Flores, Harmony Hasty, Aaleah Johnson-Parker, Zontell Junior, Terrence Lucas, Mikasia Poe, Geonah Thomas, Shia Thurmond, and Bianca Trevino), Graceland School – Kindergarten and First Grade (Amriel Goodwin, Gianna Grana, Zamarion Gray, Ravon Hubbard, Evan Maxwell, William Reynoso, Jayden Rocha, Anthony Rosario, Charlie Smith, Ethan Smith, Gakhari Thomas, and Keyion Westmoreland), Graceland School – Second and Third Grade (Alana Agnew, Essynce Alvarez, Emily Antonio, Maddux Brooks, Sirtavion King, Laila Leal, Zaryia Liggins, Elijah Martino, Janiah Reed, Eliana Rocha, Jacob Rocha, Sammy Rocha, and Briyona Williams), Holly Ottum, Jacqueline Showole, Janet A. Kuhl, Janice Henshaw, Jeffrey Zimmer, Jimmy John’s, JoAnn Haselhuhn, Judy Stapleman Kroes, Julia Donaldson and Carol Sze, Kate Alphs, Kate Gleason, Kate Singstock, Katherine Strandell, Kathy Simon, Kelly Witte, Lillian Holland, Linda Hanson, Lynn Halbur, Maggie Dreifuerst, Marc J. Wollman, Margaret Martone, Mary Billerbeck and Amanda Billerbeck, Maureen Wolfe, Pam DeGroot, Patty Roberson, Princeton Sze, Pru Lou, Racine Friendship Clubhouse, Sharon K. Guetzlaff, Sharon Nyman, Tully Delgado; **Salem:** Lynn Stried; **Sturtevant:** Rachel Riley; **Trevor:** Candice Levine; **Twin Lakes:** Bev Beyers; **Union Grove:** Joyce Blunck, Mrs. Tisha’s Go Green Class; **Wauwatosa:** Jeff Ternes

The RAM 8th Annual International PEEPS Art Exhibition is made possible in part by RAM Platinum Sponsors – Karen Johnson Boyd and William B. Boyd, Windgate Charitable Foundation; PEEPS Patrons – Kewpee Sandwich Shop, Kara Lakatos, Lakeview Pharmacy, Lisa Englander and Bruce W. Pepich, Sew ‘n Save of Racine, Neil and Ashley Staeck, Alisa Swire, Varitay Studios, Janna and Ed Waldeck, Jim, Karen,

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and Tori Walker, Jim and Cherry Wardrip, Nancy Wheeler; PEEPS Prize Providers – Colectivo Coffee, Downtown Racine Corporation, Funky Hannah’s, Hot Shop Glass, Jimmy John’s, Just Born, Inc., Lornacopia, Northern Lights Gallery, Office of the Mayor, City of Racine, Bob and Holly Ottum, Plumb Gold Ltd., The Racine Zoological Society, Red Onion Café, Sugar Shack Sweet Shoppe; and is organized by RAM Museum Store and Guest Relations.

Racine Art Museum is also grateful to John Dickert, Mayor, City of Racine for taking time out of his hectic schedule to choose his award winners.

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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.