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***RAM's Wustum Museum to Host 51st Year of Watercolor Wisconsin***

Racine, WI November 29, 2017

On December 10, 2017, Racine Art Museum's (RAM's) Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts will continue an important Racine tradition with the opening of **Watercolor Wisconsin 2017**. One of the museum's most popular shows, *Watercolor Wisconsin* is a statewide competition organized by the museum annually since 1966. This long-running, juried exhibition attracts a wide range of artists. Limited only by their materials—aqueous media such as acrylic and watercolor—artists are free to create two-dimensional and three-dimensional works on paper. This year's show features a variety of subjects, from animals, flowers, and landscape to figurative studies and the abstract. The exhibition will be on display at Wustum, through April 21, 2018.

Christina Haglid—Senior Paper Conservator and Manager for the Art Conservation Department at Joel Oppenheimer Gallery, Chicago, Illinois—and Tom Herzberg—a freelance illustrator for over 30 years and longtime member of the U.S. Air Force Art Program, with artwork in the permanent collection of the Pentagon—juried this year's show. Haglid and Herzberg considered 261 works submitted by 148 artists, narrowing down the selection to 104 works by 75 Wisconsin artists.

The Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony for the 51st anniversary competition, *Watercolor Wisconsin 2017*, will be held at RAM's Wustum Museum, 2519 Northwestern Avenue in Racine on Sunday, December 10 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. During the reception, Bruce W. Pepich, RAM Executive Director and Curator of Collections will host the awards presentation. Refreshments will be served.

**Artists in the Exhibition**

**Appleton:** Gary Hanks; **Beaver Dam:** Judy Beyer; **Brookfield:** Jean Pascek, Janet Roberts; **Burlington:** Gillian Graffy; **Cedarburg:** Patrick Doughman, Bruce Hustad,

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Tom Kubala; **Delavan:** Jenny Knavel, Dennis Markley, Sandra Willard; **East Troy:** Sandra Kessel; **Fontana:** Cathy Rocca, Susie Williams; **Glendale:** Fred Stein; **Grafton:** Wallis Coffman, Jean Crane; **Greendale:** John Vlaj; **Hartford:** Harold E. Hansen  
**Kenosha:** Genevieve Gagliardi-Gerov, Carlotta Miller, John W. Terhardt; **Lake Mills:** Karen Beal-Crosby; **Lake Tomahawk:** JoAnn Nock Olsen; **Madison:** Theresa Drinka, Melissa Enderle, Elizabeth Ivers, Brian McCormick, David Williams; **Mequon:** Alice Struck; **Middleton:** Vicki Pierce; **Milwaukee:** Michael Andrysczyk, Joyce Eesley, Kiefer Ledell, Don Linke, **JoAnna Poehlmann,** George Ronsholdt; **Mount Pleasant:** Robert W. Andersen, Sarah Andersen, Eileen Black, Doug DeVinny; **Nashotah:** Alice Rossman; **Oconomowoc:** Virgi Driscoll; **Oshkosh:** Nancy Marks, Maxine Nobbie; **Racine:** Regina Baker, Jerry Belland, Karen Broman, Lisa Englander, Karen Mathis, James McFarland, Nate Mortensen, Christine Patten, Lance Raichert, Suzanne Schackelman, Phil Schultz, Dina Walker, Kelly Witte; **Rubicon:** David Bielot; **Salem:** Harry Wirth; **Shorewood:** Madeline Martin; **Stevens Point:** Lois Freeberg-Hagen, Annette Schuh; **Thiensville:** William Davis, Tom Hovorka; **Waterford:** Norman Abplanalp, Linda Gerard Dzik; **Wausau:** Diane Shabino; **Wauwatosa:** Carolyn Kenny-Carter, Chris Sommerfelt; **West Bend:** Louise Joyner; **Whitefish Bay:** Anne Miotke; **Whitewater:** Christine B. Miller, Linda Tump; **Williams Bay:** Lynne Railsback

This exhibition is made possible by: Platinum Sponsor - Windgate Charitable Foundation; Diamond Sponsor: Osborne and Scekcic Family Foundation; Gold Sponsors - Herzfeld Foundation, Johnson Bank, National Endowment for the Arts, W. T. Walker Group, Inc.; Silver Sponsors - Andis Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, Real Racine, Runzheimer International Ltd., Wisconsin Arts Board; Bronze Sponsors - CNH Industrial, EC Styberg Foundation, Educators Credit Union, In Sink Erator, The Norbell Foundation, Orkney Springs Retreat, Ruud Family Foundation, Southern Connecticut Polymer Clay Guild, United Way of Racine County; Media Sponsor - 88NINE Radio Milwaukee.

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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

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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.