

# It's wabbit hunting season!

Peeps show features hidden bunnies

ELIZABETH SNYDER  
esnyder2@kenosha.com

**W**hen you're skilling the Peeps exhibit at the Racine Art Museum, there's more to it than just brightly colored marshmallow candies fashioned into works of art.

There's also a scavenger hunt. "People have been really enjoying the exhibition so far," said Tyler Potter, the museum's marketing director. "Also, to our surprise, both adults and children have been getting really into the scavenger hunt that our exhibitions team came up with for this year's show."

Though the museum staffers have "always offered some sort of activity during the Peeps Art Exhibition," he added, "I think this is the first — and definitely not the last — time we have done a scavenger hunt." More accurately, it's the Peeps Hopping Trail through the Racine Art Museum.

Here's how it works: The museum's exhibitions team added a Peeps bunny icon, marked with a letter, on the labels of 10 art pieces throughout the museum. The scavenger hunt offers (mostly) rabbit-related hints to help locate the pieces — "This could be a delightful place for rabbits to sit after hopping all day!" in reference to a recycled steel chair in the museum's first gallery — or you can just hunt for the labels. "I've seen many people just power

walk through the galleries while searching for all the labels," Potter said.

Once you've collected all 10 "bunny" letters, you use those letters to solve a word scramble at the bottom of the scavenger hunt page.

And here's the incentive for completing that Peeps hunt: Anyone who brings their completed scavenger hunt form to the front desk receives a Peeps-inspired sticker.

### Award winners

While Peeps show visitors can win a sticker for completing the scavenger hunt, artists in the exhibit receive honors each year. This year's award-winning Peeps entries are:

- **Adult Division**
- **First Peep:** Jean Wells, Brown Deer — Steep and Peep
- **Second Peep:** Debby Peck, Hartland — OctoPeep
- **Third Peep:** Susan Buhler, Racine — The Dawn of Peep
- **Honorable Peep Mentions:**
- Betsy Kinkema, Milwaukee — Peepunardo Da Vinci
- Veronica Gagliano Averkamp, Spring Prairie — Peep Lily
- Korinthia Klein, Milwaukee — The Picture of Dorian Peep
- Alison Wehahn, Kenosha — Peep Kong
- **Young People's Division (ages 12 and younger)**

Please see PEEPS, Page D12



"If Peeps Could Fly" by Holly Ottum of Racine was selected for the Racine Art Museum's RAM Postcard Award. SUBMITTED PHOTO



"Steep and Peep," a glazed ceramic piece by Jean Wells, won top honors in the 2023 Peeps art exhibit at the Racine Art Museum. ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS



"The colorful 2023 Peeps creations fill a room (and a hallway) in the Racine Art Museum. ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS



Jay Wilinski painted this denim jacket, called "Peep Garden." ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS



Laura Grayson's "Babooes Peep" is an homage to a piece in the Racine Art Museum's collection. ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS



"Concetta Bonita" by Lee Spolac. ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS



Cat Pond's "Organic-Petal Problems in Peepland" sees our marshmallow friends battling an alien invasion. ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS



The marshmallow candies spin vinyl in Ann Burke's "The Peeps Sweetest Hits." ELIZABETH SNYDER, KENOSHA NEWS

**If you go**

**WHAT:** The 14th Annual International Peeps Art Exhibition

**WHERE:** Racine Art Museum, 441 Main St.

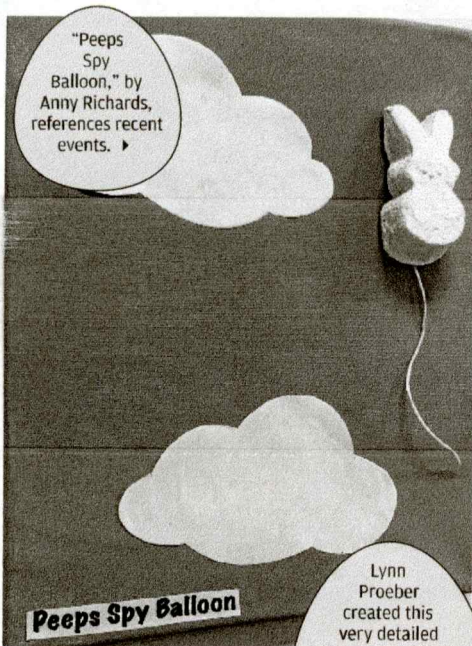
**WHEN:** The show runs through April 15. The museum is open noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday.

**COST:** Museum admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors (age 62 and older) and students.

**NOTE:** Admission is free on the first Friday of each month. Expect a huge crowd at the Peeps exhibit on Friday, April 7.

**MORE INFORMATION:** Go to ramart.org

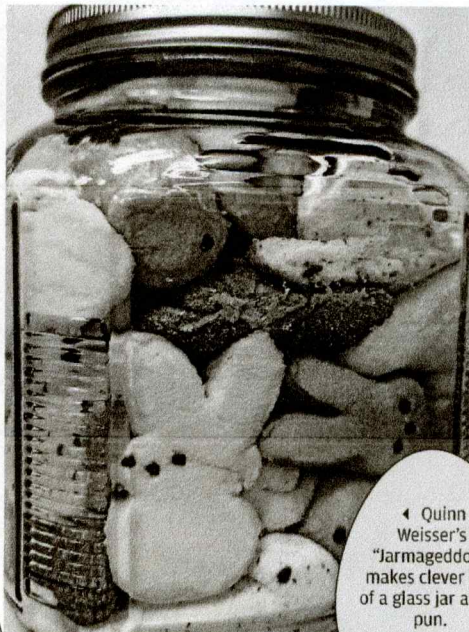
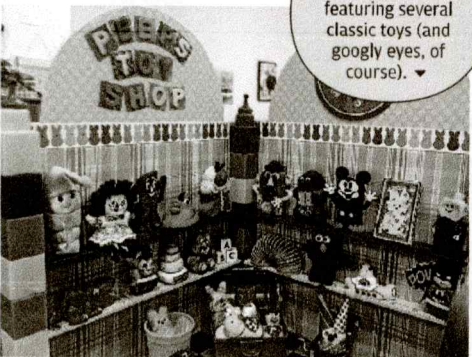




“Peeps Spy Balloon,” by Anny Richards, references recent events. ▶

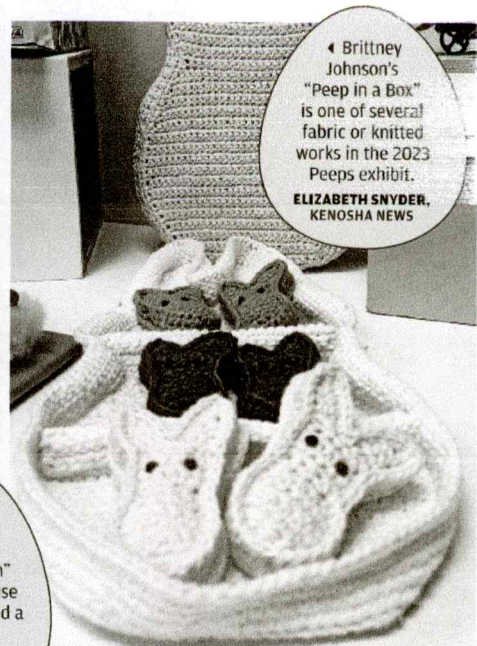
**Peeps Spy Balloon**

Lynn Proeber created this very detailed “Peeps Toy Shop,” featuring several classic toys (and googly eyes, of course). ▼



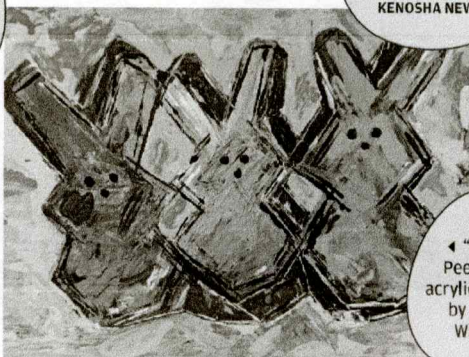
◀ Quinn Weisser’s “Jarmageddon” makes clever use of a glass jar and a pun.

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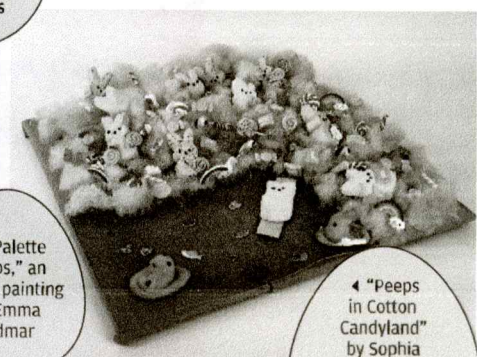


◀ Brittney Johnson’s “Peep in a Box” is one of several fabric or knitted works in the 2023 Peeps exhibit.

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◀ “Palette Peeps,” an acrylic painting by Emma Widmar



◀ “Peeps in Cotton Candyland” by Sophia Repa-Krolikowski of Racine

**RACINE ART MUSEUM PHOTO**

# Peeps

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- **First Peep:** Jack Thompson, Racine — The Great Barrier Peep
- **Second Peep:** Isabella Aviles, Mount Pleasant — Snappy the Shark
- **Third Peep:** Marie Roosa, Racine — American Peeps Group Division
- **First Peep:** Andrew Konitzer and Kathryn O’Keefe, Milwaukee — The Library of Banned Books
- **Second Peep:** Stephanie Lazzeroni and Henry Schoonover,

Racine — Captain Peepmo and Ned Fight the Giant Squid

- **Third Peep:** Bobbie and Courtnie Poppie, Kenosha — Spider Peep Stops the Train
  - **RAM Postcard Award**
  - **Holly Ottum, Racine** — If Peeps Could Fly, which will be printed on a RAM postcard
  - **City of Racine Mayor’s Choice Award**
  - **Yvonne Mayer, Racine** — Vincent Van Peep and the Morning Stars
- In addition to the awards selected by RAM, visitors are invited to vote for their favorite creation,

naming one popular artwork worthy of the coveted PEEPl’s Choice Award. Guests are allowed one vote per visit, prompting thoughtful consideration. The award will be announced after the exhibition closes.

## Free on Friday

Racine Art Museum is free on the first Friday of each month — which usually means a huge crowd at the Peeps exhibit. “We’re definitely expecting a large turnout on Friday,” Potter said, “since First Fridays have historically been super busy.

We’re warning people to expect upwards of a 45- to 60-minute wait.”

If you do go to the exhibit on Friday, April 7, and encounter a long line, museum officials “encourage guests to view the other galleries and the Museum Store during these wait periods.”

## Take a virtual tour

Can’t make it to the Racine Art Museum to see the Peeps exhibit in person? No problem! “Those who live far away or are unable to visit RAM can experience the exhibition from the

comfort of home during a live virtual tour,” museum officials said. The “intimate glimpse of the show” will be broadcast on the Racine Art Museum’s Facebook page at 11 a.m. Tuesday, April 11. Note: You do not need a Facebook account to watch the video. After the live video, the broadcast will be available to watch on demand on Facebook and the museum’s YouTube channel at any time.