



PRESS RELEASE

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**Award winners announced for art exhibition showcasing marshmallow PEEPS®**

Racine, WI March 29, 2023

On Tuesday, March 28, Racine Art Museum (RAM) Executive Director and Curator of Collections Bruce W. Pepich hosted a Virtual Award Presentation for the *RAM 14th Annual International PEEPS® Art Exhibition*—the fourteenth iteration of a popular annual exhibition featuring 142 creative entries by 200 artists from across the country. Awards were selected based on clever and skilled use or representation of PEEPS® in adult, child, and group categories.

RAM congratulates the following award winners:

**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—*Peeponardo Da Vinci*
  - Veronica Gagliano Averkamp, Spring Prairie—*Peep Lily*
  - Korinthia Klein, Milwaukee—*The Picture of Dorian Peep*
  - Alison Wojahn, Kenosha—*Peep Kong*

**Young PEEPls Division (Under 13)**

- **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*

#### 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 PEEPls Choice Award. Guests are allowed a single vote per visit, prompting thoughtful consideration. The award will be announced after the exhibition closes.

Further information about the exhibition is available on the RAM website, [ramart.org](http://ramart.org).

*Exhibitions at Racine Art Museum are made possible by: Platinum Sponsors—*

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## PRESS RELEASE

This year marks the Racine Art Museum's Twentieth Anniversary in downtown Racine. Throughout 2023, visitors are invited to discover inspiring exhibitions and programs that highlight the ways RAM has served its audiences over the last two decades while promising a brighter future.

The two campuses of the Racine Art Museum—RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and RAM's Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts at 2519 Northwestern Avenue—are located in Racine, Wisconsin, a historic community on the shores of Lake Michigan. RAM is home to the largest contemporary craft collection in North America and has a reputation for its award-winning architecture and nationally recognized exhibition program. RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts is home to the organization's diverse, award-winning art education programs and has presented significant art exhibitions since the 1940s.

Both campuses of the Racine Art Museum are currently operating with limited hours, open Wednesday through Saturday from noon until 4:00 pm. Both museums encourage all visitors and staff who are not fully vaccinated, and those who feel more comfortable wearing a mask, to continue doing so in public areas at RAM and RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts. Some in-person art classes and workshops at Wustum still require masks, determined on a case-by-case basis.