

MYSTICARTSCENTER

C R E A T I V I T Y C U L T U R E C O M M U N I T Y

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Mystic Arts Center's 51st Regional Show Opens

MYSTIC, CT – July 17, 2007 – The Mystic Arts Center will host its 51st Annual Regional Show from August 3 through September 22 with an opening reception held on Thursday, August 9 from 5:30 – 7 pm.

This year's juror, Todd Bartel, is an educator, lecturer, curator and exhibiting artist with an extensive resume of solo shows and awards. He will be evaluating hundreds of artists' work in all media for this highly anticipated show. Bartel received his BFA in painting from Rhode Island School of Design, his MFA in painting from Carnegie Mellon University, and currently teaches at the Cambridge School of Weston and Vermont College.

Twelve monetary prizes totaling almost \$4,000 will be awarded at the opening reception, including \$500 for first place and four \$500 awards sponsored by the Katherine Forest Crafts Foundation for excellence in mediums traditionally viewed as crafts, such as pottery, weaving, and metalsmithing. The first-place artist also receives a one-man exhibition in the Center's 2008 Regional Show.

Running concurrently with the 51st Regional Show, Peter McLean's large and commanding charcoal drawings will be featured in a one-man show in the Center's Schuster Gallery. McLean won first place in the 50th Annual Regional Show and is a practicing artist and retired professor of Fine Arts from the Hartford Art School who resides in Worthington, MA. He is the co-founder of the Experimental Studio Program at the Art School. McLean received his BFA in 1963 from the Massachusetts College of Art and his MFA in 1964 from Syracuse University. He has received numerous prizes and awards for his artistic accomplishments, and exhibits his work in regional, national and international exhibitions.

The opening reception for both shows is free and open to the public, and the exhibitions are co-sponsored by Chelsea Groton Bank and Historic Mystic, LLC. The Mystic Arts Center is located at 9 Water Street in downtown Mystic. The Center's art studios and sunlit galleries provide space for art classes for all ages, rotating exhibitions, cultural events, and rental facilities for weddings, private parties, and corporate events. For more information, call 860.536-7601 or visit www.mysticarts.org.

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