



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 4, 2008

Contact: Tracy Kroft

Director of Communications and Strategic
Initiatives

(585) 473-4000, extension 210

Thirteen Regional Artists Receive Funding Through the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester

Rochester, NY, August 4, 2008 – The Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester, in partnership with the New York Foundation for the Arts, awarded grants to thirteen artists from across the region. A total of \$5,993 in Strategic Opportunity Stipends was awarded for work occurring from July through October 2008 that will significantly enhance artists' careers. Over \$9,200 in requests from seventeen artists was received for this highly competitive grant program. Stipends, which ranged from \$218 to \$600, were awarded to the following artists:

- Rebecca Arday, craft artist, of Webster, for the two-month Pilchuck Emerging Artist-in-Residence program;
- Marilyn Belle-Isle, visual artist, of Webster, for an intensive mentorship with a professional poet;
- Bethany Krull, sculptor, of Rochester, for her first solo exhibit, to be held at Genesee Center for the Arts and Education;
- Susan Lakin, visual artist, of Rochester, for finishing funds related to work to be shown in the 3rd Rochester Biennial at the Memorial Art Gallery;
- Sharon Locke, visual artist, of Rochester, for an intensive mentorship with a professional metal artist;
- Jen Moon, visual artist, of Rochester, for the 2008 Studios Midwest Residency program;
- Tanya Nagel, photographer, of Rochester, for her first solo exhibit, to be held at Image City Photography Gallery;
- Herbie Pilato, media artist/writer, of Rochester, for travel to Los Angeles in connection with a new script;
- Richard St. George; theatre artist, of Brockport, to act in a play to be performed at the Fringe Festival in New York City;
- Eddie Swayze, visual artist/poet/musician, of Rochester, for an exhibition of his visual artwork, poetry, and original compositions;
- Jason Tennant, sculptor, of Rochester, for his first solo exhibition, to be held at the Ock Hee Gallery;
- Robert Vuichard, composer, of Macedon, for the premiere of original choral compositions in Europe;
- Christine Zinni, media artist, of Batavia, for the screening of her documentary on Italian Stonecutters in Italy

“These funds support the important work of our region’s artists, helping them take advantage of career opportunities that ultimately benefit the economy and artistic richness of our region as a whole,” said Sarah Lentini, President and CEO of the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester.

Strategic Opportunity Stipends, available to artists from all creative disciplines, are awarded three times per year. Artists from the following ten counties may apply to the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester: Cayuga, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates.

The deadline for the next SOS round, for opportunities November 2008 through February 2009, is September 25, 2008. Applications are available on the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester’s

website, www.artsrochester.org. For information about this grant program or technical assistance, call the Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester, (585) 473-4000, or visit www.artsrochester.org.

#

*The **Arts & Cultural Council for Greater Rochester** is a nonprofit corporation serving arts and culture in the 10-county greater Rochester region. Our mission is to strengthen and promote the region's creative sector through grant programs, constituent services, and special initiatives; and to act as an advocate, planner, and funder, supporting artistic vitality and cultural diversity throughout the region. For more information about our programs and services, visit www.artsrochester.org.*