

The Noyes Museum of Art of Richard Stockton College
733 Lily Lake Road, Oceanville, NJ · (609) 652-8848 · www.noyesmuseum.org

For Immediate Release – May 2010

Contact: (609) 652-8848 x 17, publicrelations@noyesmuseum.org

Highwater Sculpture Invitational 2010

Celebrating the impressive creative forces in the sculpture world of the Mid-Atlantic region

Exhibition Dates: June 4 - August 29, 2010

Summer Opening Reception - Friday, June 18, 2010

Michelle Post and Dave Carrow guest curate this highly provocative exhibition which brings together 13 artists. The experience, creative energy and artistic talent of Post and Carrow offer inventiveness to the display. The sculpture presented varies widely in style, symbols and subject matter. Several pieces are sophisticated and conceptually complex, while others suggest a humorous or whimsical nature. All are masterfully executed and are sure to engage, inspire and even surprise the viewer.

At the entrance a granite, larger-than-life size sculpture by Harry Gordon will stand welcoming viewers to the museum. Gordon began his career in a very classical and figurative style and moved toward abstraction, turning away from representation. However, it is still possible to find remnants of the figure in this work. "The shape and weight of the granite dictated that I simplify the "stance" of the overall form, and, as a result, my work became almost figurative again (standing on two legs)." In this sculpture it is important to look at the way the pieces relate to each other. "A tilt here and a cut there can change the attitude of the piece and gives each one its own distinct personality."

This year's invitational includes contradictory and non-traditional sculptural media, one of which is crochet by Nathan Vincent. His work explores gender permissions and the challenges that arise from straying from the prescribed norms. It questions the qualities of gender by considering what constitutes masculine and feminine. It critiques stereotypical gender mediums by creating "masculine objects" using "feminine processes" such as crochet, sewing, and applique. The non-traditional sculpting process of crochet allows him to draw attention to the challenges of defining gender identities. There is an obvious contradiction between medium and subject matter. By crocheting objects that are linked to masculine ideas he is breaking down the barrier of traditional gender identities.

Artists included in the exhibition are: Hank Murtha Adams, Leslie Atik, Regina Barthmaier, Peter Callas, Dave Carrow, Melvin Edwards, Harry Gordon, Pam Lethbridge, Rory Mahon, Michelle Post, Karen Smith, Larry Steele, and Nathan Vincent. The range and depth of these contemporary sculptors is certain to surprise and intrigue visitors to the museum.

The Noyes Museum of Art- The Noyes Museum of Art was founded in 1983 to collect, preserve and exhibit American fine art, crafts and folk art. An emphasis is on New Jersey artists and folk art forms, reflecting the area's long history, traditions, landscape and culture. General funding is provided by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a state partner of the National Endowment for the Arts; the Mr. and Mrs. Fred Winslow Noyes Foundation; The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey; the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; the Odessa F. and Henry D. Kahrs Charitable Trust. Noyes opened its satellite gallery in Hammonton October of 2008. The mission of this location is to provide additional exhibition space to area artists, market the main museum in Oceanville, NJ and showcase the museum's permanent collection. Please call 609-652-8848 or visit our website for more information.

###