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NEWS RELEASE

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Art on the River 2008 Opening Event on July 24

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque will celebrate the opening of Art on the River 2008 with an opening reception and tours on **Thursday, July 24, 2008, from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** at the Grand River Center, 500 Bell Street, in the Port of Dubuque.

There will be a brief program at 5:30 p.m. and attendees will have an opportunity to meet the artists and take either a walking tour or a trolley bus tour of the sculptures. The event includes an hors d'oeuvres reception at the Grand River Center.

This is the third year of Art on the River. Ten works of sculpture have been selected by a blind jury process. The artists featured in this year's exhibit are Andrew Arvanetes, Colleyville, Tex.; Gillian Christy, Providence, R.I.; Jerry Cowger, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Marc Moulton, Statesboro, Ga.; Stephanie Sailer, Iowa City, Iowa; Bobby Joe Scribner, Woodstock, Ill.; Bounnak Thammavong, Iowa City, Iowa; Scott Wallace, Hendricks, Minn.; Glenn Williams, Ankeny, Iowa; and Chris Wubbena, Jackson, Mo. The call for entries received an outstanding response from artists from around the country. The three-member jury panel selected the work from 67 submissions which were received from 38 different artists. The selected artists have exhibited all over the country including Navy Pier in Chicago and the International Invitational Exhibition in Sarasota, Flor. The artists have been the recipients of a number of prestigious public and private art commissions.

Art on the River is part of the Dubuque City Council's Arts and Culture initiative and is coordinated by a subcommittee of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission which includes representatives from the Dubuque Museum of Art, local artists, educators, and City staff. The selected sculptures will be on display in the Port of Dubuque until June 2009. Artwork is available for purchase by the general public. A portion of the sales will be used to fund future public arts projects. Each artist receives a stipend for loaning their work to the City of Dubuque for a year.

This year's exhibit will be installed by the artists on Wednesday and Thursday, July 23 and 24. The works of sculpture will be sited along the River Walk and in front of the Grand River Center.

This free event is open to the public. For more information, please contact Jerelyn O'Connor, Neighborhood Development Specialist, at 563-589-4110 or joconnor@cityofdubuque.org

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NOTE: Please refer to attached PDF for images and descriptions of the 10 works of sculpture.