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NEWS RELEASE

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2009 Art on the River Sculptures Chosen

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The City of Dubuque, Iowa, announces the selection of 10 pieces of outdoor sculpture for the 2009 Art on the River Exhibition. In its fourth year, the temporary public art exhibit drew 68 entries from 36 artists in 11 different states. The pieces will be installed along the Riverwalk at the Port of Dubuque in July 2009 with an opening event set for Wednesday, July 15, at 5:00 p.m. at the Grand River Center.

The following pieces were chosen for this highly competitive exhibit through a blind judging process.

- *Monolith Mantra V* by Bilhenry Walker, Milwaukee, WI, is a powder coated aluminum and steel angular piece that changes when viewed from different directions.
- *City Mouse* by Andrew Arvanetes, North Richland Hills, TX, is a whimsical stainless steel structure reminiscent of a child's wind-up toy.
- *Hooked* by Jason Messier, Iowa City, IA, recalls the excitement that comes from fishing for the big one.
- *Zig Zag Boogie Woogie* by Bill Wood, Fairfax, VA, is a series of six shiny pieces that look as if they are coming out of the ground.
- *Two Headed Trojan Ducky* by Rob Neilson, Appleton, WI, is a light-hearted statement about American rivers and waterways.
- *Wedges II* by Matt Moyer, Columbia, MO, is a welded steel sculpture that takes a humorous approach to rigid geometric forms.
- *River Objects* by Skip Willits, Camanche, IA, is constructed from found pieces of marine-grade Styrofoam that are scattered about from the floods.
- *Red Road Home* by Skip Willits, Camanche, IA, resembles river canoes.
- *You're So Vane* by John Martinson, Galena, IL, is a sculpture of tools, machinery parts and other metal objects on the form of an old windmill tower.
- *Kneeling Communication Tower* by Eric Troffkin, St. Louis, MO, presents a common commercial product in an unusual way.

Jurists for 2009 exhibit were: Jeff Boshart, MFA, an Professor of Art at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston where he teaches introductory through graduate level classes in sculpture; Delores Fortuna, MFA, an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Ceramics at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and; Douglas Schlesier, MFA, Professor of Art at Clarke College where he directs the Quigley Gallery and teaches sculpture, drawing, ceramics, airbrush painting, and new genre.

The present exhibit will be on display through June 2009. Art on the River is part of the Dubuque City Council's Arts and Culture initiative. Working in conjunction with the Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, the Dubuque Museum of Art and a volunteer committee made up of artists, educators and city staff, the City has identified 10 highly visible locations at the Port of Dubuque to display selected artwork for a temporary exhibit that changes each year. The Port of Dubuque is a 90-acre riverfront campus which features the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, Grand River Center conference center, Grand Harbor Resort and Waterpark, Diamond Jo Casino, historic Dubuque Star Brewery, and Dubuque Shot Tower.

General information about the exhibit and photos of the newly selected pieces are available online at www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver. For additional information, please contact Jan Stoffel, Arts and Cultural Affairs Coordinator, at 563-589-4110 or janstoff@cityofdubuque.org.

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