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DETROIT ARTISTS MARKET ANNOUNCES ITS 2009 COLLEGE FOR CREATIVE STUDIES ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AND EXHIBITION PROGRAM

DETROIT, February 18, 2009 — The Detroit Artists Market proudly presents its 2009 *Annual Detroit Artists Market Scholarship and Exhibition Program* that includes the presentation of the scholarship awards to outstanding College for Creative Studies undergraduate students. The Detroit Artists Market (DAM) exhibition will present works by the three scholarship recipients along with the seven other student finalists and many distinguished alumni and faculty. The DAM exhibition will open to the public from **7-10 p.m., Friday, March 13**, and run through April 18, 2009.

This year's exhibition and scholarship program commemorates the contributions of the world renowned College for Creative Studies and the DAM.

The student finalists of the John F. Korachis Scholarship Awards were chosen by the DAM scholarship and exhibition committee. The selection process began with an open invitation to CCS students and was concluded with individual studio visits and interviews with the finalists. After lengthy deliberations, the recipients of the awards and scholarships were finally chosen for their originality, sensitivity to subject matter and exceptional art work.

The College for Creative Studies is a world leader in art and design education. CCS has recently embarked on a major expansion that will transform the institution while providing new educational opportunities for Detroit youth and advancing the renewal of Detroit's New Center District. Upon completion in September 2009, the historic 760,000 sq. ft. Argonaut Building will house all of CCS design departments and feature the college's new graduate programs in Design and Transportation Design, as well as a new charter middle school and high school focused on art, design and creativity developed in partnership with the Thompson Educational Foundation and the Henry Ford Learning Institute.

CCS is also committed to supporting fine arts with Kresge Arts in Detroit, funded by the Troy-based Kresge Foundation. The Artists Fellowships and Eminent Artist Award, administered by the CCS, seek to support artists by providing up to \$500,000 to those living in Detroit's tri-county area.

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John Korachis, the founder of this scholarship program and committee chairman, made the following statement:

“Despite the current cutbacks in the arts and the study of humanities, it is refreshing to discover that the College for Creative Studies is in the midst of a renaissance both in its academic programs and in the large expansion of its campus facilities. This resurgence is clearly expressed in the art work of this year’s 10 scholarship finalists. It became evident during the jury process as the committee examined and consistently found the work presented by each one of these young artists to contain strong characteristics. There was originality not only in subject matter but in use of materials.

There was an intellectual expression with the intent of documenting through the work certain political, sociological and aesthetic concerns. There was the use of materials and techniques that are environmentally sensitive. They utilized their particular media and artistic expression to speak of consumerism and the byproducts of industrialization while still maintaining the integrity of fine art. Some of the students’ work demonstrates the importance of community involvement while others were using abandoned techniques and materials in order to reinstate handcrafted excellence and aesthetics long forgotten.”

The 2009 College for Creative Studies Annual Scholarship and Exhibition at the DAM will open on Friday, March 13, with members preview from 6-7 p.m. and public preview from 7-10 p.m. The exhibition will close on Saturday, April 18, 2009.

The Detroit Artists Market is located in the Detroit Cultural Center at 4719 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201; three blocks south of The Detroit Institute of the Arts, and one block east of Wayne State University. This event is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the lot directly behind the DAM Gallery. Visit online at www.detroitartistsmarket.org.

Sponsorship donors of this year’s scholarship program include John F. Korachis, The James Giftos Family Trust, The Worsham Foundation and Sazbean.com, Gyro Creative Group, Seaway Maintenance Services, LLC, Constantine George Pappas, AIA Architecture/Planning, Inc., Kresge Foundation, MCACA and Masco Corporation Foundation.

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