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Greater Hartford Arts Council
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THE GREATER HARTFORD ARTS COUNCIL HOSTS AN EXHIBITION OF LOCAL ARTISTS KAREN ROSSI & BETH PITE

*Gallery of Works for Sale in the Greater Hartford Welcome Center, 45 Pratt St., Hartford
December 3, 2009 to January 8, 2010
Artists' Reception Thursday, Dec. 3 5-7pm*

HARTFORD, CT (November 20, 2009) — The Greater Hartford Arts Council is pleased to host an exhibit of works by local artists Beth Pite and Karen Rossi. The exhibit will be shown in the Greater Hartford Welcome Center, 45 Pratt St., Hartford, from Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009 until Friday, Jan. 8, 2010. Normal gallery hours are Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm. An artists' reception will be held in conjunction with Aetna First Thursday on Thu., Dec. 3, 5-7pm, with both artists present to talk about their work. The gallery will feature a variety of items for sale including ornaments, menorahs, and works in pastel. Let's GO Arts! card members will receive a 10% discount off all sales.

The opening reception will feature a free gift-wrapping station, courtesy of the Arts Council. Shoppers will be able to take their festive purchases home with them that day. Credit card purchases are preferred, although the Welcome Center is able to accept cash. The artists are generously donating 15 percent of the sale proceeds to the Greater Hartford Arts Council's United Arts Campaign, which funds more than 150 arts and heritage organizations across Greater Hartford. Items for sale are reasonable prices, ranging from \$10 to \$10.

"The artwork and accessories available for purchase make perfect gifts," said Beth Pite. "You'll find gift ideas appropriate for teachers, administrative assistants, babysitters and day care workers, your mechanic, your kids' coaches, your church community, your cleaning lady...even hostess gifts."

Karen Rossi added, "We'll have a wide selection of available items, including packs of note cards to small originals and limited edition prints. We'll also have a few larger original paintings and sculptures for special splurges/gifts."

"We are very excited to host two immensely talented artists under our roof," said Kate Bolduc, Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Hartford Arts Council. "Art doesn't have to be considered a luxury. The works that will be shown and available for purchase in the Welcome Center are both affordable and fun. They are great for brightening someone's office or kitchen window, not to mention adding a festive spirit throughout your home."

About Beth Pite:

Beth Pite has been showing her art regularly since 1997, in both juried shows and solo exhibits. She is a member of the Connecticut Pastel Society, attended the University of Connecticut School of Fine Arts, and has participated in workshops throughout New England. Pite has studied with nationally-known painters such



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as Frank Federico, Richard McDaniel and Gigi Liverant. Her colorful artwork has won awards in Connecticut and Rhode Island, and can be found in private collections in New York, Tennessee, Maine, Pennsylvania and throughout Connecticut. For more info, visit bethpите.com.

About Karen Rossi:

Karen Rossi Studios is the New England workshop of narrative artist/designer Karen Rossi. Highly regarded for her original metal sculptures, she also imports and licenses her whimsical characters of hobbies and professions, known as Fanciful Flights™ and Flight Au Naturel.™. A growing brand, Rossi Studios is constantly introducing many programs. The newest additions include floor puzzles by Ceaco and Hartford or Baltimore jigsaw puzzles by Ravensburger. Through the autumn of 2009, Rossi has been busy creating major sculpture commissions for Boston Children's Hospital and Community Health Resources of CT. For more info, visit karenrossi.com.

The Greater Hartford Arts Council enlivens the spirit and economy of Connecticut's Capital Region by planning, promoting and raising funds for cultural programs that are building one of our nation's most vibrant communities. It is the largest independent arts council in New England, one of the top 10 United Arts fund in the country, and a national leader in diversified services and cultural promotions. The Greater Hartford Arts Council has raised and invested \$58 million for the arts over 38 years, helping to rank Greater Hartford in the top 6 percent of metropolitan areas in North America for its arts and culture. More information about the Greater Hartford Arts Council may be found at LetsGoArts.org. For a full list of Holiday events, visit LetsGoArts.org/Calendar.