



APPLETON ART CENTER

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Appleton Art Center to Host Inmate Art Exhibit December 5 – 20 in Kretzschmar Education Center

Appleton Art Center presents the exhibition *Re-emergence: An Inmate Art Exhibit* from December 5 through December 20 featuring over 30 works of art by Wisconsin inmates. The exhibition will be on view in the art center's Kretzshmar Education Center. The exhibit is a collaborative effort between Appleton Art Center, the Wisconsin Resource Center and the Correctional Education Association of Wisconsin.

A special reception for the exhibit is scheduled for Friday, December 12 from 5:00-8:00 pm. The reception will include musical entertainment and refreshments and will be free and open to the public.

All works of art will be included in a silent auction with proceeds benefiting Appleton Art Center's new project, *ArtStart: Reaching Disadvantaged Youth*. *ArtStart* is designed to introduce undeserved youth to the arts and provide them with opportunities for participation in creative activities.

For the past four years, offenders at the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) had partnered with the Flying Pig Gallery & Greenspace in Algoma to hold an art exhibit and raise funds for the Kewaunee County Violence Intervention Project. The partnership provided financial support and hope for individuals coping with personal crises. This year the Flying Pig was unable to host the exhibit and the Appleton Art Center stepped in to provide a venue for the exhibit.

WRC provides treatment for correctional inmates with severe mental health and behavioral problems. As part of the treatment process, offenders are encouraged to participate in community service projects. Five years ago, WRC teacher Ken VanMieghem recruited some of his students to produce artwork, which could be used in fundraising events. The project enables the offenders to be involved in an activity intended to benefit the community and helps inmates restore their feelings of self-worth.



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Join us on Friday, December 12 to view the artwork and socialize with other correctional educators. Or stop in during regular Appleton Art Center hours between December 5 and 20 to make a bid and support this worthwhile project.

The exhibition coincides with Appleton Art Center's holiday exhibit, *Seasonal Settings: The Holiday Table*, on view in the Dietrich and Reigel Galleries.

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