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For Immediate Release
Photos Attached

Art Awards Reception Draws Hundreds - Crowd celebrates *The Art of Association* at ArtCenter

Tequesta, Fla. (June 8, 2011) — Nearly 400 people gathered at the Lighthouse ArtCenter on Friday, June 3, where they enjoyed a fresh collection of art and shared an abundance of delicious dishes prepared by the artists themselves. The occasion: A dinner to spotlight *The Art of Association: Art Associations Hang Together*, an exhibition presented in collaboration by the Artists Association of Jupiter, Artists of Palm Beach County, the North County Art Association and Seabranche Art League.

The exhibition, which runs through Saturday, June 10, features recent works, including paintings, prints, photographs, glass art, fabric art, woodturning, mixed media and sculpture.

“It’s a fantastic exhibition, and we’re proud to have the involvement of several important community art associations at the Lighthouse ArtCenter,” said Executive Director Katie Deits.

During the evening, Deits presented awards to artists for their outstanding artwork: Danelina Koseva, received Best of Show for the painting on silk, *Dream of Summer* (Priced at \$1,600); Carolyn Austin, received First Place for the carved class, *Gecko in Driftwood Base* (Priced at \$725); Joe Friedman, received Second Place for the oil on canvas, *View from My Room, Paris* (Priced at \$2,000); Charles Bieser, received Third Place for the oil on canvas, *The Longest Gangplank in the World-Liberte Departs New York* (NFS); Bill Jones, received Fourth Place for the pine/African Blackwood urn, *Norfolk Island* (Priced at \$350); Norman Berman, received an Honorable Mention for the watercolor on paper, *Eclipse* (Priced at \$600); Sheriese Gansz, received an Honorable Mention for the acrylic on board, *Blue on Red* (NFS); Steven Nussdorf received an Honorable Mention for the pencil drawing, *On the Edge of the Bed* (Priced at \$180); Chris Oaks, received an Honorable Mention for the charcoal drawing, *Still Life with Monoliths I* (Priced at \$1,000).

“We welcome the participating artists and their organizations and hope that they have found a home at the Lighthouse ArtCenter,” Deits said. With recent declines in public funding for the arts, art associations aim to bridge the gap by creating new ways for artists to show their work and promote themselves. Some also garner support for other causes, including environmental awareness, breast cancer research, animal rescue and community mental-health programming.

Although the term “art association” is relatively new, artists have been known to band together throughout history, from “guilds” in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, to less formal groups centered around café life, and later in “art leagues” during the 20th Century. “Working together, we have lots to offer the community through our services in the arts, and to one another as artists,” Deits said.

The Lighthouse ArtCenter is a member-supported not-for-profit 501(c)(3) community arts organization, providing excellence in art exhibitions, instruction, education and outreach for all ages. Programs are funded in part by the Palm Beach County Cultural Council, the Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council and the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners.

For more information on the Lighthouse ArtCenter Museum, School of Art, exhibitions, programs and events, visit LighthouseArts.org or call (561) 746-3101. The Lighthouse ArtCenter is at Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta, Fla., one-half mile west of U.S. Highway 1. Museum hours are Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with free admission. Closed Sunday.

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Winners photo with Katie Deits - Lighthouse ArtCenter Executive Director Katie Deits (from left) with award winning artists Carolyn Austin (First Place), Joe Friedman (Second Place), Charles Bieser (Third Place) and Bill Jones (Fourth Place). Not Pictured: Danelina Koseva (Best of Show). *The Art of Association: Art Associations Hang Together* is on view through Saturday, June 10, at the Lighthouse ArtCenter.



Best in Show Danelina Koseva - Oil on silk painting, *Dream of Summer*, by Danelina Koseva, which received Best of Show in *Art of Association: Art Associations Hang Together*. The exhibition is on view through Saturday, June 10, at the Lighthouse ArtCenter.



First Place Winner - Carved glass, *Gecko in the Driftwood Base*, by Carolyn Austin, which received First Place in *Art of Association: Art Associations Hang Together*. The exhibition is on view through Saturday, June 10, at the Lighthouse ArtCenter.



Second Place Winner - Oil on canvas, *View From My Room, Paris*, by Joe Friedman, which received Second Place in *Art of Association: Art Associations Hang Together*. The exhibition is on view through Saturday, June 10, at the Lighthouse ArtCenter.