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## **ARTWalk Announces 2008 ARTAuction! Informational Public Meeting this Saturday**

ARTWalk is looking for artists to participate in its second biennial ARTAuction on Friday April 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Village Gate, 274 North Goodman Street from 7-10 pm (VIP preview at 5 pm). Public Informational meetings will be held for interested artists at 179 Atlantic Avenue on Saturday, January 19 from 12-1 pm and Saturday, February 16 from 12-1 pm.

The ARTWalk ARTAuction is an evening to remember! Over 75 local artists and businesses have donated artwork, products and services to be auctioned at this fundraising event. Filling over 60,000 square feet, the Auction features hundreds of works on display! Hosted in the new loft spaces at Village Gate, each room offers an intimate area to exhibit the art. The ARTAuction will also feature music and performance groups.

Other donated items include antique furniture, products, and gift certificates from area businesses.

Additional artwork will be on sale as part of a grand exhibit, with many artists present to speak with attendees. "The 2008 event is a bit different than the 2006 event," says Anne Lovely, coordinating committee chair for the event. "This year we selected through a committee process twelve artists to showcase their works, and reserved approximately 10,000 square feet for their use. The remaining 30 to 50,000 square feet will be filled by local artists."

The logo for Village Gate Square features the words "Village Gate" in a large, black, cursive script font, with the word "SQUARE" in a smaller, black, sans-serif font centered below it.

Artists represented in the auction and silent auction award-winning designer and illustrator Frank Argento, Courtney Gruttadauria, one of Rochester Insider magazine's eight to watch in '08 and Pyramid Arts & Literature's January '08 featured artist, Cheryl Amati Martin, one of the few remaining photographers that univocally hand colors black& white originals, legendary sculptor Achille Forgiione, world-renowned painter and teacher Steve Carpenter, distinguished sculptor and painter Leonard Urso, award-winning fine-arts photographer Richard Margolis, prominent painter and muralist Shawn Dunwoody, distinguished painter and community activist Maria Friske, nationally celebrated mixed-media artist Jill Gussow, renowned sculptor Peter Macon, and prominent painter Colleen Schreiner.

Artists interested in participating should apply before February 29<sup>th</sup> 2008.

Gary Stern of Stern Properties is donating the space to ARTWalk for the event. "We are thrilled and delighted to be an anchor arts organization located in NOTA and to support ARTWalk," says Stern. Steven Argento of S.C. Fine Arts and the Santiago Studio is again a major underwriter of the event.

Advance tickets are \$25. Please contact ARTWalk directly for advance group ticket sales (10 people or more) for a discounted price of \$20.

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