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## February First Friday: Feb. 5, 2010 Get Downtown for an Adventure this First Friday!

*Greensboro, N.C.* –The public is invited to experience Downtown’s creative community for First Friday, February 5. This event will feature new and original art and crafts, artist “meet and greets,” participatory workshops, and *Around Downtown in 80 Minutes*, a fast-paced scavenger hunt around Downtown.

First Friday is a free, self-guided tour of Downtown Greensboro’s shops, galleries and alternative arts venues that participate with **specially programmed events and extended hours** (until 9pm) on the first Friday of every month.

First Friday is an opportunity to discover the center city’s local artistic community and encourages commerce and support of locally-owned, independent businesses located in Downtown. The event is promoted through a partnership between Downtown Greensboro Inc. and the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro. For further updates and a downloadable map/guide, visit the First Friday Web site, [www.downtownfridays.com](http://www.downtownfridays.com).

### **PARTICIPATING FIRST FRIDAY VENUES TO DATE:**

#### **\*Gate City Yarns – 231 S. Elm St.**

See spinning and weaving demonstrations and find a variety of fiber art supplies for crocheting, knitting and felting. Also an “Around Downtown in 80 Minutes” site.

#### **Green Bean – 341 S. Elm St.**

Reception for the artists from The Sanctuary. Located at Revolution Mills Studio, The Sanctuary is a spirituality and creativity center. Over 60 pieces of art will be on display including oil and acrylic paintings and photography. Meet the artists from 6:00pm-9:00pm.

#### **Cultural Arts Center – 200 N. Davie St.**

- **Green Hill Center for NC Art**  
Opening reception for *Embodiment* from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Featuring Nikki Blair, Heea Crownfield, Carolyn DeMerritt, Holly Fischer, Ellen Giamportune, Kate Kretz, Cort Savage, Mary Tuma and Margaret Yaukey. The nine N.C. artists will investigate the dynamics of looking and being looked at. In arresting works in sculpture, clay, photography, fiber and metal these artists take as their subject matter the human body as the site of transformative identity and mediation. The body as a personal and public object of perception will be examined in terms of stereotype and gender, anatomy and aesthetics, fear and desire. Cash bar available
- **Center for Visual Artists**  
See '2010 EXPOSURE' photo biennial exhibition and two guest exhibitions, 'REsource: Interior Products from Furniture Industry Waste' and the Greensboro Youth Council Artistry Fine Arts Showcase.

### **Lyndon Street Artworks – 205 Lyndon Street**

Lyndon Street Artworks features over forty local artists' working studios that are open to the public.

Meet painter **Helen Palmenteri**. She has been facing what she calls "The Beast" for several months now. This First Friday she will tame that beast, live on stage at Lyndon Street!

Valentine's Day is only 1 week away! Browse handcrafted one of a kind enameled jewelry at the new and improved **Copper Chameleon Studio**, upstairs at Studio W. [www.copperchameleon.com](http://www.copperchameleon.com).

**Ström Art** is having a Studio Sale and new colorful paintings by **Charlotte Ström** will be available during February's First Friday. 20% will be taken off the tag price for a single Ström Art item purchased. 50% will be taken off the tag prices for multiple Ström Art items purchased. A free signed Ström Art Magnet with all purchases.

Charlotte & Erik Ström have finished painting the natural stream environment upon the Cascading Waterfall Fountain as well as the open sky painted on the walls of the alley it resides in. You can find this wonderful piece of collaborative public art on Elm St., in the heart of Downtown Greensboro.

The Fountain structure itself was created by sculptor, Erik Beerbower and installed by Erik and fellow artists, Andrew Comstock and Dai Rees. The lovely vinyl gate at the alley's entrance was created by metalsmiths, Ernie and Lois Rich. All of these folks are proud to be Lyndon Street Artists!

**Anni Frohlich** is an eclectic artist and soul. Her 3-D "Little Cities" liven up spirits. This jewelry is one-of-a-kind and made from "reconsidered" materials.

**Mariana Rodriguez-Pardy**, with her unique style inspired by prehispanic art, is working on a series of terracotta "tortoise" bottles and original bowls. [www.tierramadreceramicart.com](http://www.tierramadreceramicart.com)

See **Karen Bjork Dischell's** "Green Landscape", oil on canvas, 38" x 18", 2009.

Kris Hohn's studio upstairs holds new paintings and jewelry.

**\*Mack and Mack – 220 S. Elm St.**

Drop-in throughout the evening to join in an open musical performance by F-Art Ensemble or to enjoy this organic listening experience.

**Old Photo Specialists – 320 S. Elm St.**

Valentines Day is around the corner. If you are looking for a unique gift, stop in to see “Nostalgia Portraits” at antique photo restoration and photography studio, Old Photo Specialist and how you can make your own Nostalgia Portrait.

**Yew Tree Gallery – 604 S. Elm St.**

Enjoy refreshments and have a chance to watch a painting demonstration by **Maggie Fickett**.

Yew Tree Gallery is featuring the work of Maggie Fickett. Maggie specializes in watercolors and pen-and-ink drawings. She enjoys the challenge of painting on location, and often uses Old Greensboro's buildings, railroads, parks, and homes as subjects. She is frequently commissioned and has exhibited her award-winning work in galleries across North Carolina.

Also see a group exhibit entitled "Treasures" featuring the work of many members of Yew Tree Gallery showing through March, 2010.

**Winter Light Gallery & Art Studios – 410 Blandwood Ave at Spring Garden St.**

Featuring “Spirit Horses,” the watercolors of Vicki Johnson.

A collection of colorful horse watercolors. Vicki works in watercolors and mix media and covers a wide range of subject matter. Her work is collected throughout the United States. Winter Light Artists include: Jerry Cartwright, Chase Ferguson, Vicki Johnson, Kathy Kbrusnighan, Judy Meyler, Carol Meetze-Moates, Kathy Phillips, Steve Robinson, Carol Sams, Allie Scott, Phyllis Sharpe, Jane Smith & Jeanne Twilley. Refreshments.

**Around Downtown in 80 Minutes – Now You See Them, Now You Don't!**

How fast can you explore Downtown Greensboro? One hundred teams of two will be participating in a scavenger hunt in this game of speed and fun to visit as many Downtown destinations as possible in 80 minutes. Teams from across the Triad will participate including: Madison; Eden; Winston-Salem; Trinity; Clemmons; Belews Creek; Asheboro; and Greensboro. In 80 minutes, teams visit as many Downtown “destinations” as possible and collect enough points to be one of the top three teams to win prize packages. Pre-registration is required by February 1 at [www.triadstage.org](http://www.triadstage.org). Participation is free. This event is sponsored by Triad Stage with support from Downtown Greensboro Inc. and United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro.

\* “Around Downtown in 80 Minutes” sites

### **About First Friday**

*First Friday is sponsored through a partnership between Downtown Greensboro Inc. and United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro to promote and encourage participation in the Downtown Greensboro arts scene. Visit [www.downtownfridays.com](http://www.downtownfridays.com) for more information.*

### **About Downtown Greensboro Inc.**

*Downtown Greensboro Incorporated is a non profit economic development organization established in 1997. Our core purpose is to lead the development of downtown Greensboro as a prosperous and vibrant urban center, memorable and meaningful for those who choose to live, work, play and invest here. Visit [www.downtowngreensboro.net](http://www.downtowngreensboro.net) for more information.*

### **About United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro**

*The UAC invests in our creative community. Our mission is to inspire growth of creative expression in our community by providing strategic and financial leadership to arts organizations, artists and educators that enhances quality of life and cultivates economic vitality and educational engagement with the Arts. Our vision is for Greensboro to be nationally recognized as a vibrant center for the Arts with a community rich in creative expression. Visit [www.uacARTs.org](http://www.uacARTs.org) for more information.*