



SCHUYLKILL RIVER NATIONAL & STATE HERITAGE AREA

Schuylkill River Heritage Area
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Art Show Celebrates Beauty of the Schuylkill River Region

With its beautiful landscapes, historic villages, and graceful stone arch bridges, the Schuylkill River corridor offers artists a plethora of inspirational material.

The 2009 Scenes of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area is a juried art show that celebrates both the beauty of the region and the artwork it has inspired. Sponsored by the Schuylkill River Heritage Area, the exhibit features 62 original works that will hang from September 2 through October 23 at the Montgomery County Community College (MCCC) West Campus Gallery at 16 West High St. in Pottstown.

This is the fourth year that the Schuylkill River Heritage Area has sponsored an art show, in an effort to draw attention to the beauty of the Heritage Area and to stimulate an interest in and awareness of the talents of regional artists.

Each year the show attracts more artists, and organizers strive to make it a major exhibit for the region. The works all communicate the distinctive nature of Schuylkill River corridor, and are of various mediums, including paintings, drawings and photographs. Pottsgrove Manor, Hopewell National Historic Site, Daniel Boone Homestead and the Manayunk Canal are among the many places depicted by the artists.

This year's juror was well-known artist Julie Longacre, of Bally. "I was impressed by the variety of mediums represented in the exhibit, as well as the sense of imagination evident in many of the works," she said.

Longacre selected three winning entries, and also presented her own award to a fourth artist for a notable work. Artist Bob Hakun, of Royersford, took first place for his oil entitled "The Return of the Shad," a detailed, whimsical painting of a suitcase-toting fish beneath the waters of the Schuylkill. Second place went to Lori Quinque-Quinn, of Perkiomenville, for her watercolor, "Dedication Day of the Perkiomen Trail," and third place went to artist LA Mestishen, of Pottsville, for her pastel "Raccoon Rock." Earning a special award from Longacre was photographer Kevin Bennett, of Philadelphia, for his "Early Morning on the River."

All works are available for sale, and a portion of all proceeds benefits the Schuylkill River Heritage Area.

The show is free and open to the public. Gallery hours are: M-Th. 8 a.m.-9:30 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. On Saturday October 10 it will be open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the Schuylkill River Festival. For more information contact the SRHA at 484-945-0200 or the MCCC Galleries Director Holly Cairns at 215-619-7349, hcairns@mc3.edu.

The Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area is a non-profit organization that uses conservation, education, recreation, tourism, and cultural and historic preservation as tools for community revitalization and economic development. For more information about the SRHA visit www.schuylkillriver.org.