



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PORTSMOUTH WAKES UP TO OVERNIGHT ART!

On April 1, 2005, Portsmouth will awaken from a lingering, snowy winter to **Overnight Art!**, a scattered-site exhibit of temporary outdoor artworks that celebrate the arts themes within the City of Portsmouth's Master Plan.

Overnight Art! is sponsored by Art-Speak, the City of Portsmouth Cultural Commission. It was born from a national "call to artists" and juried competition. In January 2005, Art-Speak commissioned six pieces of outdoor art from regional artists and artist teams. Starting April 1st, one commission per day will be installed in locations around Portsmouth. The exhibit will be complete on Wednesday, April 6, and on display until Monday, April 18.

Each **Overnight Art!** commission speaks directly to elements of the Master Plan. "Portsmouth's Master Plan is unique in the specific attention it pays to culture as an integral element affecting the city's quality of life," said Chris Dwyer, chairwoman of the Art-Speak board. "Because the Master Plan includes a provision for public art, Art-Speak thought it appropriate to celebrate the completion of the Master Plan with public art," she concluded.

- April 1 -** *SOAR* represents economic vitality;
- April 2 -** *Callbox 4* acts as a collective voice for the community while visually revealing images of the local landscape;
- April 3 -** *Sidewalk Skins* is suggestive of Portsmouth's human history;
- April 4 -** *Art as Architecture* concentrates on historic preservation;
- April 5 -** *Gateway* touches upon Portsmouth's past while expressing the necessity of affordable housing to maintain community diversity;
- April 6 -** *Portsmouth Says Hi!* compels the citizens of Portsmouth to become involved by providing responses to thematic inquiries posed by myriad phone booths.

Art-Speak seeks to raise awareness and appreciation of the arts among local youth through **Kids-Speak! about Overnight Art**. Elementary and middle-school students in Portsmouth and SAU50 will be invited to participate in Overnight Art! through in-class and at-home activities. Students can participate by responding to the artwork through role-playing: *Be an Art Critic*; *Be a Poet*; and *Be an Artist*. The students' critiques, poetry, original works of art will be published on the Art-Speak web page and placed on exhibit in the Portsmouth Music and Art Center on Albany Street in Portsmouth.

A "Meet the Artists" reception is scheduled for Sunday, April 17th from 3–5 p.m at Nahcotta Gallery. It will be free and open to the public. Nahcotta is located at 110 Congress Street, downtown Portsmouth.

Overnight Art! Details

- What:** Scattered site exhibit of outdoor, public art
- Where:** Six locations in Portsmouth (see attachment for specifics)
- When:** Installation begins on April 1.
The entire exhibit will be on display until Monday, April 18.
- Who:** Sponsored by Art-Speak, the City of Portsmouth Cultural Commission;
Funded by NH Council on the Arts and a private donation.
- Other Details:** - "Meet the Artists" reception: Sunday, April 17 from 3-5PM at Nahcotta
- **Kids-Speak!** exhibit will be on display at PMAC in May 2005.

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Attachment 1: Installation Dates / Locations / Artists
Attachment 2: Exhibit Map



Attachment 1:

Overnight Art! Exhibit Locations / Artists

Date	Names	Portsmouth Locations	Artist / Artist Team
April 1	"SOAR"	@ Sheraton Harborside - Market & Russell Streets	TF Moran, Inc. – a New Hampshire landscape-architecture firm assembled an artist-based team that includes Anne Cruess, Paul Kirby, Matt Routhier, and Mike Krmzemiski.
April 2	"Callbox 4"	@ Nahcotta Gallery - 110 Congress Street	Jennifer Belkus – a poet who was a finalist in the Portsmouth Poet Laureate <i>Voices and Visions</i> Project for her piece "Flowers, Birds and Us." Her poems have been accepted by several journals. <i>Belkus collaborated with Tim Gaudreau.</i>
April 3	"Sidewalk Skins"	@ Goodwin Park - Islington Street	Barbara Rita Jenny – a visual artist whose work is inspired by macroscopic photographs of human flesh in Baroque-influenced patterning. Jenny specializes in works on paper, vinyl, and lycra.
April 4	"Art as Architecture * Architecture as Art"	@ Vaughn Mall - Congress Street	Jamie Calderwood – a sculptor also trained as a landscape architect. He specializes in outdoor pieces that reveal the magical relationship between nature and culture.
April 5	"Gateway"	@ Sheraton Harborside - Deer & Market Streets	Laura Pope – an arts journalist who has worked as a writer for documentaries, as a magazine editor for the award-winning <i>New Hampshire Home</i> magazine, and as story writer for <i>New Hampshire Profiles</i> and <i>Yankee Magazine</i> .
April 6	"Portsmouth Says Hi!"	@ Market Square - Market & Congress Streets	Tim Gaudreau – an environmental artist whose passion is the natural and built environment. His public installations are meant to be "found." <i>Gaudreau collaborated with Jennifer Belkus.</i>

Attachment 2:

**Overnight Art!
Exhibit Map**

