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Date: February 17, 2009

Madison, Wisconsin, Artist and Professor to Discuss Art and Activism March 4

HANCOCK, MI – Madison, Wisconsin, professor and visual artist Helen R. Klebesadel notes that the arts are one of the ways a culture defines what they value.

Visual artists, for example, not only relay aesthetic, and sometimes personal, content in their work, they may use the content of their own lives to express their understanding of cultural, social, and political issues.

At a free community lecture Wednesday, March 4, 2009, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Finlandia University Finish American Heritage Center, Klebesadel will discuss the place in which art and activism come together, especially, but not only, regarding women's issues. The title of her talk is, "The Personal Is Political: Art as Activism."

As an artist-in-residence at Finlandia University from March 2 to 6, Klebesadel will work with art and design students, helping them find effective ways to articulate their ideas and perceptions in their chosen mediums.

Klebesadel exhibits widely and has written several publications on using student-centered pedagogies in college level art teaching. She is a past national president of the Women's Caucus for Art, the largest and oldest multi-disciplinary women's art organization in the USA, a past member of the board of directors of the National Women's Studies Association, and a current appointee to the Wisconsin Arts Board. Visit the artist's website at <http://klebesadel.com>.

An exhibit of recent watercolor paintings by Klebesadel, titled "The Birds, Bees, Flowers, and Trees," will be featured at the Vertin Gallery, Calumet, from March 6 to April 1.

For additional information, please contact Yueh-mei Cheng, associate professor of studio arts and illustration, at 906-487-7375 or yueh-mei.cheng@finlandia.edu.