

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact:

Jocelyn Almy – Testa, Director

The Little Art Gallery Under the Stairs in LynnArts Inc Building

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RE: *Balance: Mothers Who Create*, Exhibit to run at the Little Gallery Under the Stairs from February 7, thru March 14th.

(Lynn, MA) - - Balance: Mothers Who Create, an exhibit showcasing art work created by more than thirty mothers will be on display at The Little Art Gallery Under the Stairs in Lynn, MA, from February 7, 2009 thru March 14, 2009.

The public is cordially invited to an opening reception for Balance: Mothers Who Create at The Little Gallery Under the Stairs, on Saturday, February 14th, 2009, from 2:00 - 4:00pm. An open house will be held on March 7th, from 2:00-4:00pm, and a closing reception will be held on March 14th, from 2:00-4:00pm.

The exhibit features over thirty local, regional and national professional artists who are also mothers. The exhibit includes mixed media, photography, paintings, sculpture, printmaking, and more.

Gallery director Jocelyn Almy-Testa states, “Women are significantly underrepresented in museums and history books, and within that small population of women who do achieve recognition, few are mothers. This exhibit is geared towards the acknowledgement of mothers as a creative workforce that is overlooked in both the art and political realms. With so much talk today about the creative economy, we can no longer look past the women who are raising the next generation of creative thinkers. We're not just along for the ride; we are the drivers and must be considered a part of the equation.”

Almy – Testa, who is a mother of four herself, states, “Working mothers, regardless of their profession, face difficult choices regarding the balance between work and family. This exhibit showcases mother-artists who have found a way to keep creating through that struggle for balance and have done so skillfully.”

The exhibit includes photography, mixed media, sculpture, acrylic and oil paintings, artist books, relief prints, and more. While most of the artists reference motherhood in their work, subject matter includes the tediousness of housework, environmental concerns, soccer moms (as in moms who play), mourning the loss of a child, the relationship between father and child, and pregnancy, amongst other concepts, both literal and conceptual.

Artists include: Claire Burke, Carol Calabro, Xiaowei Chen, Jane Von Letkemann Coder, Patricia Crotty, Ellen Filreis, Lisa Fowler, Becky Gibbs, Lara Goodman, Liz Webb Green, Maggie Hennessey, C.M. Judge, Linda Kelly, Rochelle Kelly, Erin Long, Ruth Lieberherr, Alison Nesbitt, Camille Maren, Maria Marx, Suzanne McLeod, Christine McShane, Amy

Morrison, Melissa Oddi-Morrison, Nicole O'Leary, Ronni Komarow, Ellen Shattuck Pierce, Mia Rosenblatt, Luba Shapiro, Unju Sim, Ellen Wetmore, Claudi Waters, Carolyn Wirth.

The Little Gallery Under The Stairs opened in June, 2006 in the lower level of the LynnArts Building in Central Square, Lynn, MA. TLGUTS is a privately owned gallery committed to exhibiting fine art and high craft which communicates a personal story, journey, or point of view.

True to its name, TLGUTS is an intimately sized gallery in the lower level of the LynnArts community art center, offering an unintimidating viewing experience.

The mission of the gallery is to provide artists with exhibition space to promote their work in an environment that supports and respects their passion, vision and voice; provide their viewing audience with a meaningful experience; and create community between creators, collectors, enthusiasts, and newbies.

Director Jocelyn Almy-Testa says, "My goal is that every person who walks through the door leaves with what ever it is they were looking for, whether it be a work of art, support, a sense of community, entertainment, inspiration, information, education, or a conversation."

The *Balance: Mothers Who Create* exhibit is on display at The Little Art Gallery Under the Stairs thru March 14, 2009. The gallery is located in the lower level of [LynnArts Inc.](#), 25 Exchange Street, Lynn, MA 01901. Gallery hours: Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm, Saturdays 10-4pm, and by appointment. Free and open to the public.

For more info, email: jocelynalmy@galleryunderthestairs.com, call 781-715-1445 or visit <http://www.galleryunderthestairs.com/>

Printable (.pdf) directions: <http://www.lynnarts.org/Directions%20to%20LynnArts%20Inc.pdf>

Parking: There is 2 hour street parking adjacent to and in front of LynnArts. There is also a parking lot located at the rear of the building.

END