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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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To download high-resolution images for the Halpert Biennial '11, visit www.tcva.org.

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR HALPERT BIENNIAL '11

BOONE -- The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts and An Appalachian Summer Festival are pleased to announce the winners of the Halpert Biennial '11 is a national, juried, two-dimensional art competition and exhibition program that is held every other year as one of the visual arts components of An Appalachian Summer Festival.

This year's juror, Steven Matijcio, the Curator of Contemporary Art at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA) in nearby Winston-Salem, was faced with the challenge of choosing this year's exhibition to be installed in Main Gallery of the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts on the campus of Appalachian State University. Out of 430 submissions by 147 artists, Matijcio selected a group of 68 works by 48 artists.

The winning artists of the Halpert Biennial '11 are: Stephanie Adelman, Dave Alsobrooks, Kristin Ashley, Jerry Atnip, Geoffrey Ault, Dianne Baker, Kevin Benisvy, Denee Black, Aaron Blum, Mickael Broth, Joe Burleson, Les Caison III, Emily Clare, Julia Clift, Louis DeLuco, William T. Dooley, David Dorsey, Marjorie Durko Puryear, Bryan Florentin, Jenny Freestone, Carl Gombert, Carly Greene, Susan C. Gregory, Dorothy Griffith, Leslie Hirst, Constance Humphries, Rowan James, Carmella Jarvi, Dale Klein, Dan Lobdell, Neil Loughlin, Kathleen Madigan, Leigh Moose, Cindy Murray, Daniel Nevins, Bongkyun Noh, Jim Pearson, Kurney Ramsey Jr., Craig Screven, Darron R. Silva, Gregory L. Smith, Tom Stephens, D. B. Stovall, Ineke Thomas, Carole Usdan, Justin R. Webb, Erin Wiersma, and Michael Zakely.

## **About the Competition**

The Halpert Biennial '11 is a national, juried, two-dimensional art competition and exhibition program designed to recognize new works of art by emerging and established artists residing in the United States. The Halpert Biennial, an integral part of An Appalachian Summer Festival, is made possible through a generous endowment from Buddy & Charlotte Halpert and is dedicated to the couple's memory. This exhibition has grown to feature some of the most exciting new visual art in the country and focuses on a range of art including paintings, drawings, prints, photography, mixed media and works using traditional and non-traditional materials. The awards for the competition amount to \$5,000 and include two Juror's Awards, a Director's Award, as well as multiple Purchase Awards that allows the expansion of The Halpert Biennial Collection within the Turchin Center's Permanent Collection. A gallery tour by the juror and reception for the artists will be held at the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts July 17, 2011 at 2pm.

## **About the Juror**

Steven Matijcio is the curator of contemporary art at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA) in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He is a graduate of the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College, New York and has held positions in a number of important galleries and museums including the Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art, the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery, the Art Gallery of Ontario, and the National Gallery of Canada. Matijcio's curatorial practice is consistently cross disciplinary, extends from the historical to the contemporary, and was recently honored with a 2010 Emily Hall Tremaine Exhibition Award. He has also lectured on theory and criticism at the University of Manitoba, written for numerous catalogues and journals (including the Guide to the 27th São Paulo Biennial), and was commissioned by the Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation to curate one of their first online exhibitions. He continues to remain active as a curator, writer, professor and researcher.

#### **About An Appalachian Summer Festival**

An Appalachian Summer Festival is a multi- and inter-disciplinary arts festival presenting and producing programs in music, theatre, dance, visual arts and film. By bringing the most accomplished and respected creative and performing artists from around the world to Appalachian State University, the festival supports the overall university mission, enhances the cultural life of the Appalachian community, and serves as an important gateway onto the campus. For more information, **visit www.appsummer.org or call 1-800-841-ARTS.** 

# **About the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts**

The Turchin Center is located at 423 West King St. in Boone, N.C. Hours are 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday, and Noon – 8 p.m. Friday. The Center is closed Sunday and Monday and observes all university holidays. There is no admission charge, although donations are gratefully accepted. For additional details about the Turchin Center or the upcoming events throughout July, please **call 828-262-3017 or visit www.tcva.org.** 

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