



From: Creative Arts Workshop
www.creativeartsworkshop.org

Contact: Cheryl Hart
Development & Marketing Manager
(203) 562-4927
chart@creativeartsworkshop.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Revised 8-5-18

Creative Arts Workshop presents *Sea Change*, Opening August 5, 2018

Exhibition explores the aesthetic powers of recycling and upcycling, of working with found objects, and thinking about the effects of human activities upon the sea

Exhibition: *Sea Change: Transforming Found Objects & Environments by CAW's Young People*

Venue: Creative Arts Workshop

Location: Hilles Gallery

Dates: August 5-25, 2018

(NEW HAVEN, CT, July 18, 2018) – The beach is one of many sites of human interaction with the seas. For the last year, veteran CAW art teacher Gul Rukh Selim has been collecting objects and images at Lighthouse Point Park in New Haven. Her passion for the earth, sea and ecology have now been transformed into a children's two week art program and corresponding exhibition entitled *Sea Change*, that looks at the ways in which we are shaped by the sea and how we in turn shape it.

Sea glass, shells, driftwood and organic found items are a striking reminder of the power of the sea and sand. Non-organic items such as cans, plastic and other refuse are a reminder of the powerful influence of humans. Either way, the sea takes what it is given – willingly, unwittingly – reshapes it and sometimes returns it to us transformed.

This summer at CAW, youth ages 7-11 will do their own transformative work – exploring the aesthetic powers of recycling and upcycling, of working with found objects, and thinking about the effects of human activities upon the sea – in two one-week *Sea Change* arts programs starting July 30th and August 6th. The program will examine renewable energy and sustainability, as well as recycling, reusing, and repurposing everyday objects. Students will try to imagine creative solutions to climate change issues, and work on art projects in related themes. Projects include mosaics, mixed media sea creatures, and seascapes made from clay and recycled or found items, such as driftwood, shells, rocks, and sea glass. Throughout the two weeks, students will work on the *Sea Change* installation in CAW's gallery, adding the art they've created during the program. Working with experts, students will learn the basics of curating and displaying works of art.

“In this era of rapid climate change, the urgency of reexamining our treatment of the earth is palpable,” said Anne Coates, Executive Director of Creative Arts Workshop. “Art is a powerful vehicle for conveying this urgency, especially for children.”

The exhibit runs from August 5th through August 25 with a reception and ice cream social on Friday, August 10, from 4:00-6:00 pm. The exhibit and reception are generously sponsored by Ashley’s Ice Cream. The Hilles Gallery at Creative Arts Workshop is free and open to the public; hours are Monday-Friday, 9-7 and Sat 9-12:30. For details, visit creativeartsworkshop.org, or contact Robin Green, Gallery and Programs Manager, at (203) 562-4927.

ABOUT CREATIVE ARTS WORKSHOP

Creative Arts Workshop is a nonprofit regional center for the visual arts that has served the Greater New Haven area since 1961. As an anchor institution located in the heart of the award-winning Audubon Arts District, CAW offers a wide range of visual arts classes in its own three-story building with fully-equipped studios in eight disciplines, and an active exhibition and public programming schedule. More than 1,000 adults and young people enroll annually in the more than 350 courses offered by Creative Arts Workshop, while thousands of visitors enjoy the free exhibitions in its destination galleries throughout the year. CAW’s classes are open to students of all ages and levels of experience.

CAW is supported by its membership, tuition fees, sponsorship, contributions from individuals, charitable foundations, public funding, and from special events and sales.

###