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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Creative Arts Workshop presents *The Village Project*, Opening March 1, 2019

An interactive exhibition created by Denise Minnerly, in collaboration with Don Bracken, tackling the concept and realities of “home” in relation to community, identity, and interconnectedness.

Exhibition: *The Village Project*
Venue: Creative Arts Workshop
Location: Hilles Gallery
Dates: March 1 - April 2, 2019

(NEW HAVEN, CT, February 21, 2019) – Creative Arts Workshop will present *The Village Project* installation with artists Denise Minnerly and Don Bracken on the subject of “home.” The exhibition seeks to understand how groups of people form communities, cultures, and civilizations—and how we are interconnected. Further, we will explore the degree to which dwellings are used as metaphors to illuminate an individual’s identity and sense of “belonging.”

The exhibition begins with an installation of a village or community, composed of handmade, floor-resting clay houses which form a village and a collection of hanging vines, assembled into a sculptural pod, which serves as an extension of the village.

The exhibition expands with an invitation to all gallery visitors to make their own interpretations of homes in clay, which will be fired at CAW and added to the installation throughout its run. Workshops and a panel talk are planned throughout March to support the program. A closing reception will celebrate the exploration and community created, and give participants an opportunity to see their impact on and participation in the creation of community.

A critical component of the project is a time-lapse photography recording of the installation showing the formation of community, which will be shown as a backdrop to the public talk, and subsequently be published on CAW’s website.

"The Village Project exhibition is multi-faceted in that it considers urban design, housing, and homelessness, and the implications on our local Connecticut communities, and in other cultures around the world. Creative Arts Workshop is honored to advance this important work at a time when bridging cultural understanding is so critical," said CAW Executive Director, Anne Coates.

The exhibit runs from March 1 through April 2 with a reception on Saturday, March 2, from 3-5 pm. The Hilles Gallery at Creative Arts Workshop is free and open to the public; hours are Monday-Friday, 9-7 pm, and Saturday 9-4:30 pm. 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 1,500 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.

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