



Manchester Public Schools

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Manchester High School Teacher Awarded Grant

For Immediate Release

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(Manchester, CT—May 12, 2009)—A Manchester High School art teacher was awarded a \$5,000 grant by the Art Renewal for Teachers (ART) Program. Karen Stavolone was awarded the grant at a ceremony held at the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme. The grant was given to 89 art teachers throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts. The program, which is supported by an anonymous donor, gives grants to selected art teachers who would like to spend the summer 'renewing themselves' as artists.

Stavolone, an East Windsor resident, plans to use the grant to build a studio space in her home, and enroll in a summer sculpture class at the Hartford Art School. She also plans to research and document local shade growing tobacco farms, and produces large scale ceramic work relating to this industry.

As an ART grant recipient, Karen will have an opportunity to apply to receive a second grant to implement an interdisciplinary art program at Manchester High School. This program, if accepted, would build on her summer experience. The ART program also sponsors regular opportunities for grantees to visit regional art museums and share their experiences and art work with one another.

Stavolone has been an art teacher at Manchester High School since 1998. In the past, Stavolone has produced predominately three-dimensional works of art; figurative plaster, functional ceramics, fabricated metal, fabric and conceptual installations with sound and text. The ART grant is a program of The Philanthropic Initiative, Inc. based in Boston, Massachusetts.

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