



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
October 21, 2009**

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Largest collaborative artwork in the world coming to Hartford Public Library

At 11am on October 28th, Hartford Public Library will open an exhibit of giant painted sections from the American Mural Project. When completed, this huge three-dimensional painting – 120 feet long, 48 feet high, and 6-8 feet deep – will be the largest indoor collaborative artwork in the world. The exhibit is free and open to the public through November 29th during library hours.

“Hartford Public Library and the American Mural project is a win-win partnership. The Library’s glass walls and natural ambient lighting, combined with a 25-foot ceiling, will offer Ellen Griesedieck’s amazing three-dimensional artwork a truly unique exhibition space. The Library is delighted to be able to provide people of all ages and backgrounds in our community the opportunity to participate in American art culture,” said Mary Crean, chief development officer, Hartford Public Library.

A tribute to the American worker, the American Mural Project (AMP) was founded by artist Ellen Griesedieck. She is visiting all 50 states and working with people of all ages who are helping her create pieces that will be included in the final artwork.

After eleven years of work, more than one third of the mural is finished and over 10,000 people have contributed to the effort.

The exhibit will feature pieces of the mural, some up to 30 feet high, as well as walking tours, lectures, and projects scheduled all month for students and adults at the library. Throughout the month, AMP will also be leading art activities with kids from local schools, the Wadsworth Atheneum, and many other organizations around the city.

“Eleven years ago, when I started this project as a tribute to working people in America, I could never have imagined it would morph into this giant barn raising of art. With some of the top educators and professionals in all fields committed to AMP and thousands of kids involved, I feel like the Verizon guy – check out the network behind me.”

Ms. Griesedieck will be at the library on October 28th and 29th and November 11th, 17th, 18th, 24th, and 28th. On those days, visitors will be invited to paint, draw, and write on one of AMP’s eight-foot recycled paper-pulp ‘links,’ which will be included in the finished mural along with other similar links that people are now creating across the country. This is your chance to contribute to the piece that will represent the Greater Hartford area.

Learn more at www.americanmuralproject.org.