

FROM: PORT MOODY ARTS CENTRE SOCIETY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Still Time to Vote for your Favourite at the 2009 Wearable Art Awards

PORT MOODY, BC – Visitors viewing the 2009 entries in Port Moody's Wearable Art Awards still have until June 28th to vote for the "People's Choice" winner – a choice that may not be easy, given that an outstanding panel of jurors found it impossible in at least one category to pick a clear winner and had a tie for runner-up in another.

The 70-plus entries are on display at the Port Moody Arts Centre, 2425 St. Johns Street, Port Moody, where visitors can cast their ballots for the Pasta Polo People's Choice Award.

After a red-carpet showing by models from the Tri-Cities area, the jurors chose three winners from British Columbia, one from Alberta and five from the United States.

Open Category – Elena Gregusova, North Vancouver, BC for "*The Queen of Queens*", a woven sculpture made from recycled newspapers (2nd consecutive win). Nita Bowerman and Shawna McLellan, both of Vancouver, tied for runner-up for their respective entries, "*Couped*" and "*Best Party Ever*".

City of Port Moody Headdress Category – Ryan McCourt, Edmonton, AB for "*The Helmet of Laocoon*", a Trojan priest of Poseidon, made from brass, aluminum, lead and tin.

Brassiere Fantastique Category – A tie between Chelsea Briggs, Fairfield, IA for "*Urchin Swimsuit*", made from cotton, fibre, fill and a bra to represent the long-spined black sea urchin; and Sara Holden, Milwaukee, WI for "*Revenge Kestos*", made from thread, embroidery floss, steel, paint and goldleaf to identify the preciousness of vulnerability and reinforced strength and security.

Pacific Coast Terminals Recycled Category – Mia Cinelli, Marquette, MI for "*Bags to Riches*", made from brown paper bag pages, thread and metal hooks and eyes.

Port Moody Arts Centre Olympic Category – Carol Funnell, Agassiz, BC for "*Mountains of Ice and Snow*", made from satin, paper mache, wool, foam and wire, inspired by the Vancouver 2010 logo.

Christine Catering Best in Show Award – Angela Bright, Port Moody, BC for "*(News)Paper Doll*" made from newspapers, paint, re-used ribbon and crystals (2nd consecutive win).

Conceptual Award – Jeffrey Scanlan, New Orleans, LA for "*Life Jacket*", made from pillows, necktie, hangers, wood and ratchet.

Andrew Peller Limited Student Award – Emily Hadland, Athens, GA for “*Wearable Inflatable*”, made from rip-stop nylon to represent using what you put on your body as a method of enhancing experience.

Photos and further details about the entries are available at www.wearableartawards.com.

The jurors were: Stuart Sproule and Barnaby Killam of Redflag Design, Vancouver; Sam Carter, an Associate Professor and a member of the Board of Directors of the Emily Carr Institute (“ECI”) Foundation; and Gayle Ramsden, a textile artist who teaches at the University of the Fraser Valley.

The Wearable Art Award winners share \$5,000 in cash prizes donated by community and corporate partners.

The event is presented by the Port Moody Arts Centre Society - with support from businesses and sponsors who include the City of Port Moody, the BC Gaming Commission, the Port Moody Arts Centre, Pacific Coast Terminals, Pasta Polo, Andrew Peller Limited, and Christine Catering Company - to encourage local, Canadian and International artists of all mediums to submit evocative, imaginative and thought-provoking creations for the human body. The imaginations of the participating artists are the only limits on entries.