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FOR INFORMATION:
Gabriel Brown
Spaceworks Assistant
253.682.1735
gabrielb@tacomachamber.org
SpaceworksTacoma.com

Spaceworks Tacoma Announces 5 New Artscapes Installations

On Display Sep 18 – Dec 10, 2014

Tacoma, Wash – Five elaborate, new Artscapes installations are activating the old Woolworth storefront windows, and the Tacoma Post Office Building display cases. The artists selected for this round include Sarah Beth Smith, Carla Grahn, Tory Franklin, Deanna Pindell, and Jessica Spring. This marks the 13th round of commissioned exhibitions brought to you by Spaceworks Tacoma.

First, in the Tacoma Post Office Building display cases is **Jessica Spring**, this year's AMOCAT Award winner for "Community Outreach by an Individual." Jessica has put together a miniature letterpress museum from her own collection in the Post Office Building lobby titled "*Recollection, An Ephemeral Exhibition of Exquisite & Eclectic Ephemera.*" The Woolworth window facing Commerce Street features a complex installation by the talented eco-artist **Deanna Pindell**. Snapped steel rope, stripped bark, sliced tree trunks, ceramic birds, and numerous other carefully collected objects fill the space entirely from floor to ceiling, creating a visceral and poetic artwork that contemplates deforestation and the manipulation of nature.

On the corner of 11th & Broadway, a large Woolworth window brims with color and detail from a fairytale installation by Seattle artist **Tory Franklin**. She uses her own intricate vinyl designs, along with hand-painted woodcut characters and props to tell the tale of the "*Six Swans.*" In the next window down, metal artist **Carla Grahn** displays 14 impressive sculptures of oversized, ornate jewelry titled "*Athena's Bling.*" This exhibit is part of "Metal-Urge," Tacoma's metal arts festival happening this year from October 1st, through November 30th. Finally, the pair of northernmost Woolworth windows on Broadway includes two of **Sarah Beth Smith's** large format photographs set into surreal installations that captivate viewers with an unexpected, psychological, and stunning artwork. Sarah states that she is "deeply inspired by cinema, folklore, fairy tales and fantasy" and these "dream-like images reflect the shadowy corners of my psyche."

Artscapes applications were reviewed in October 2013 by a talented and devoted selection panel of: Kyle Dillehay, Art Instructor at Tacoma Community College; Dane Meyer, Dane Gregory Meyer Photography and Tacoma Arts Commissioner; Naomi Strom-Avila, Cultural Arts Specialist for the Tacoma Arts Program; and Frank Terrill, Artifact Restorer and Senior Engineer at the Tacoma Planning & Development Services Division.

Locations and support for Spaceworks Tacoma Artscapes are provided by property owners A Street Associates LLC, Power Property Consultants, and AT&T; funders include the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber, the City of Tacoma, the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Americans for the Arts and Ovation TV.

Full descriptions and images can be found at
<http://spaceworkstacoma.wordpress.com/projects/installations/>

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Vacancy to Vitality! Spaceworks Tacoma is a joint initiative of the City of Tacoma and the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber designed to activate empty storefronts and vacant space in Tacoma. The initiative makes no- and low-cost temporary space, training, and technical assistance available to artists, creative entrepreneurs, organizations, and community groups in order to nurture successful projects that transform Tacoma into a stronger, more active city. Since starting in July, 2010, Spaceworks has worked with over 150 artists or artist teams in 31 spaces around downtown Tacoma.