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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 30, 2004

PROFILING FAMOUS WISCONSIN ARTISTS AND ARCHITECTS

MADISON — Wisconsin has a rich heritage in the visual arts. There are literally thousands of artists and a large number of architects that call the state home. Author Heidi Levy has chronicled some of the famous and not-so-well-known in *Famous Wisconsin Artists and Architects*, the latest book in the Famous Wisconsin series.

Naturally, artists like Georgia O’Keeffe and architect Frank Lloyd Wright make the cut. But Levy also includes those who may not be household names, but whose work has left a legacy.

The artists that Levy met have a common mission to their creativity. They do what they do to capture a moment in time. If they become famous along the way, that’s a bonus.

Levy introduces us to:

- Milwaukee book artist, printmaker, and illustrator, JoAnna Poehlman, whose work is in the collections of the New York Public Library and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London
- Baraboo sculptor Dr. Evermor, whose 400-ton, cosmic intergalactic piece of art called the Forevertron, never fails to capture the attention of tourists driving by.
- Delafield abstractionist artist, Charles Dix, whose work resides in the corporate collections of Miller Brewing, Bank One and the Milwaukee Public Library.
- Madison artist Aaron Bohrod, a WWII correspondent artist on assignment for Life magazine who is known for meticulous detail in his still-life paintings.
- Claggett Wilson, the artist who made Ten Chimneys, the Genesee Depot home of Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, into a stage set.
- Fremont portrait painter, Merton Grenhagen, who painted the portraits of many socialites, state political leaders and governors and state Supreme Court justices.
- Oshkosh sculptor Helen Farnsworth Mears, considered one of the most important female sculptors in the United States.
- Madison architects Louis W. Claude and Edward F. Starck who built over 175 buildings in the Madison area.
- Neenah architect George Edwin Bergstrom who, in collaboration with architect David J. Witmer, designed the Pentagon.

Levy will be speaking on Wisconsin authors including ceramicist Susan Stuart Frackleton and signing books at the Wisconsin State Historical Society Museum, 30 N. Carroll St. at 1 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 12. Call 608/267-2832 for information.