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**Master Visual Artists: History Center to Open New Art Exhibit this
Saturday**

**- The exhibit is presented in partnership with the Master Visual Artists Project, a group
dedicated to recognizing artists in Southwestern Pennsylvania –**

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 12, 2019 – Beginning on Saturday, Dec. 14, visitors to the Smithsonian-affiliated Senator John Heinz History Center can examine artwork created by accomplished local artists inside the new ***Master Visual Artists VII: Preserving the Legacy*** exhibition.

The captivating exhibit is presented in partnership with the Master Visual Artists Project – a local group dedicated to recognizing the lifelong achievements of influential artists in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

This will be just the seventh exhibition by the Master Visual Artists since 1991, and the first since 2013 (hosted by the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts).

The exhibit features a variety of mediums including acrylic and watercolor paintings, sculpture, fiber art, and pottery, as well as a theater with a video exploring each artist's legacy and life story.

Master Artists featured in the exhibit include Rochelle Blumenfeld, Robert L. Bowden, Richard Claraval, Sylvester Damianos, Joan Iversen Goswell, Dale Huffman, Kevin O'Toole, Susan E. Laansma Pollins, Ruth G. Richardson, Mary Weidner, and Patricia Kennedy-Zafred.

The featured artists' stories will be documented and preserved for future generations in the History Center's Detre Library & Archives.

The Master Visual Artists Project was initiated in 1991 to recognize and honor mature local artists whose work has shown excellence. Past exhibitions were held in 1991, 1993, 1996, 1998, 2005, and 2013.

The exhibition is supported by the **Allegheny Regional Asset District (RAD)** and the **Heinz Endowments**.

The History Center's ***Master Visual Artists VII: Preserving the Legacy*** exhibition will be on display in the museum's fifth-floor Barenfeld Gallery through Sept. 13, 2020.



On Saturday, Dec. 14, the Heinz History Center will open a new art exhibition entitled **Master Visual Artists VII: Preserving the Legacy** in partnership with the Master Visual Artists Project. (Quilt, "Steel Town: Dues Paid" by artist Patricia Kennedy-Zafred, 2015. Original images courtesy Library of Congress.)



The captivating new exhibit will feature a variety of mediums including acrylic and watercolor paintings, sculpture, fiber art, and pottery. (Sculpture by artist Kevin O'Toole)

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