### In Memory of Carol M. Griffith

1Carol M Griffith December 22, 1932 - May 2, 2009

My mother retired from the NY State Elmira Correctional Facility after 22 years as a library clerk in a men's maximum-security prison. She didn't scare easily. At age 76 she fought the town hall over a property assessment that raised her taxes and she won and got a reduction. Throughout her life she was politically active and always fought for the cause. Her level of integrity far exceeds anyone I have ever known. She was a direct descendent of Charlemagne and refused to be bullied by convicts and insecure people. That is my legacy.

I found this poem of hers. Author unknown

Out of this life. I shall never take things of silver and gold I make All that I cherish and hoard away after I leave this earth must stay

Though I have toiled for a painting rare to hang on the wall, I must leave it there Though I call it mine and boast its worth I must give it up when I leave this earth

All that I gather and all that I keep I must leave behind when I fall asleep and I often wonder what I shall own in that other life when I pass alone

What shall they find and what shall they see in the soul that answers the call for me? Shall the great judge learn when my task is through

that my spirit has gained some riches too?

Or shall at last it be mine to that all I'd worked for I'd left behind?

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## Local Artist Wins Prestigious Fellowship

The Florida Keys Council of the Arts proudly announces local artist Karley Klopfenstein as the 2009 winner of the South Florida Cultural Consortium Fellowship for Visual and Media Artists.

Ms. Klopfenstein was awarded a prize of \$15,000, joining nine other artists from South Florida so honored in this year's SFCC competition. The \$15,000 fellowships are the largest such awards provided by local arts agencies in the United States. The Consortium is an alliance of the arts councils of Palm Beach. Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and Martin Counties.

Klopfenstein's current body of work focuses on specific American military weaponry, rendered domestic with traditional craft techniques such as weaving, crocheting and rug hooking. The juxtaposition of the imagery used as a graphic element, and the technique, comment on the persistent presence of violence in our everyday lives. As an artist, Karley is interested in the ways that violence, horror and war

nudge their way into the comfort of our daily routines. Currently, she is an artist in residence at The

panel was totally anonymous, based solely on the quality of the artists' work as evidenced by digital images,



Photo Caption: Liz Young, Executive Director, Florida Keys Council of the Arts (right) congratulates Karley Klopfenstein, 2009 winner of the SFCC Visual & Media Artist Fellowship Award.

Studios of Key West, and is represented by the Charest-Weinberg Gallery in Miami.

The recipients were selected during a two-tier panel process which included the participation of regional and national arts experts. Selection by the regional

slides or video/films submitted. The regional panel forwarded their recommendations to the national panel, which was comprised of: Amada Cruz, Program Director, United States Artists, Los Angeles; Linda Dubler, Curator of

Media Arts, High Museum of Art, Atlanta; Odili Donald Odita, Visual Artist, Philadelphia; and Gilbert

Vicario, Assistant Curator of Latin American Art. The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. All four national judges participated in the final recommendations.

An exhibition featuring the works of the ten recipients will be presented at the University Galleries, School of the Arts at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton from September 18 - October 30, 2009; with an opening reception scheduled for Thursday, September 17, 7 - 9 p.m.

Cultural Consortium Visual and Media Artists Fellowship Program is a cooperative project funded in part with the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Florida Department of State Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Arts Council, the Boards of County Commissioners of Broward, Miami-Dade, Martin and Monroe Counties, and the Palm Beach County Cultural Council.

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