

# NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Kristina Hutch Matthews  
soulpur@frontiernet.net

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What : Artworks and Poetwords

When: Opening Friday, May 4th 5 to 8 p.m.  
The exhibit runs through May 30

Hours: Saturdays & Sundays 12 to 5 p.m.  
May 5 & 6  
May 12 & 13  
May 19 & 20  
May 26 & 27

Where : Dome Arena's Glass Lounge

Contact Info: Sherry Tulloch (585) 737-4211  
For more info visit [www.rochesterartclub.org](http://www.rochesterartclub.org)

## **Rochester Artists and Poets Find Their Muses**

*Visual artist seeks eccentric open-minded poet to whack ideas, metaphors and images back and forth in a unique game of intellectual tennis.*

With matching services enjoying a prime spot in today's culture, it was only natural that the idea would occur to someone, somewhere. Why not offer a similar service to help creative types inspire one another?

Thus, the idea for Artworks and Poetwords was born. In a unique new exhibition which promises to showcase the artistic/poetic process as much as the end-products of their labors, 31 artists were randomly paired with 31 poets. Over a period of eight months, each artist-poet team has collaborated--without boundaries or guidelines—to see where it leads them. And best of all, almost all the teams were perfect strangers at the beginning of the project.

Each artist-poet pair was free to develop their own strategy for how to collaborate. Which piece would come first, the art or the poem? Would it be

possible to create simultaneously? Would two people who are so accustomed to working alone even be able to work together? Whose ideas or ego would prevail?

“We knew we were taking a risk—to take two creative personalities and tell them to work together in some way,” says Sherry Tulloch, artist and chairperson for the event, which is sponsored by the Rochester Art Club. “The response has been overwhelming. We thought we’d get five or six participants, never thirty-one.”

The artists are all members of Rochester Art Club, and the poets were invited from assorted poetry groups around Rochester. Themes of the poetry and artwork run the gamut, from the war in Iraq, to nature.

Artworks and Poetwords opens at the Dome Arena’s Glass Lounge on Friday, May 4 from 5 – 8 p.m. The exhibit runs through May 30. Admission is free and open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 12 – 5 p.m. A schedule of readings and artist discussions can be found at [www.rochesterartclub.org](http://www.rochesterartclub.org).