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FERST CENTER FOR THE ARTS EXPANDS ART GALLERY HOURS TO THREE-DAY OPERATION

Atlanta – October 17, 2007 – Ferst Center for the Arts visitors, Georgia Tech students and visual arts fans now have easier access to the Westbrook and Richards Galleries for visual arts. Today, the Ferst Center for the Arts announces the galleries' new Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday daily hours and an expanded roster of monthly rotating exhibits.

The galleries will display different visual art exhibits each month, featuring original artwork or photography by contemporary artists. In the past year, the galleries featured the works of renowned Atlanta artist Raymond Cody, Canadian painter Eric Waugh and multi-media artist Deanna Sirlin.

"We are extending the open hours for our galleries to provide more visibility for local and regional visual artists," said Jay Constantz, director of the Ferst Center for the Arts. "Now, visitors to the Ferst Center will have more opportunities to enjoy the wide variety of visual artists featured in our galleries."

The galleries will be open to the public with regular hours on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

During October, the galleries will feature local and international work from Women in Focus, a non-profit association of women photographers founded in 1993 by a small group of women who recognized the need for a network for women photographers who could support each other's personal, professional and artistic growth.

The exhibit, juried by curator and collection consultant Susan Todd-Raque, includes images selected from the submissions by the group's 80 active members. The exhibit features photographs from "Georgia for Georgia," a collaboration between Women in Focus and female photographers in the Republic of Georgia.

All exhibits are free with details available at www.ferstcenter.org.

Upcoming 2007 exhibits include:

Women in Focus - Photography

October 1- 31, 2007

An exhibit featuring the photography of a non-profit artist-initiated organization of women photographers who joined together to support and promote photographic arts in Atlanta. Founded in 1993 by a small group of women who recognized the need for a network for women photographers who could support each other's personal, professional and artistic growth, Women in Focus has blossomed into a thriving organization of more than 80 active members.

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Raymond Cody – Oil on Canvas

November 1-30, 2007

Returning to the Ferst Center in November, a native and resident of Atlanta, Cody paints and illustrates what he dreams, feels, knows, loves and lives. Cody's depictions of dance and music depict action and deep expression which is evident in his masterpiece "REVELATIONS," in the strength of his piece "BIRMINGHAM BLUES" and the spirit as seen in such works as "ROCK-A-MY-SOUL" and "RIBBONS." His works have been exhibited at venues throughout Atlanta including the Richard Russell Federal Building, Atlanta University, The Black Family Reunion Exhibition, The National Black Arts Festival and the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts.

The AIDS Memorial Quilt

December 1-31, 2007

Weighing 54 tons and composed of more than 47,000 panels dedicated to more than 90,000 individuals, The AIDS Memorial Quilt is the premier symbol of the AIDS pandemic and the largest piece of community folk art in the world a living memorial to a generation lost to AIDS. The Ferst Center for the Arts is hosting an exhibit of individual panels in honor of World AIDS Day, December 1. Each panel of The AIDS Memorial Quilt is at once a memorial and tribute to an individual who has died of AIDS. For the living the survivors creating a panel for a loved one is unique way to come together to remember, to mourn, to begin healing, and hopefully, to find some small solace in the unique form of artistic expression.

About the Ferst Center for the Arts

The Ferst Center for the Arts is a part of the Georgia Institute of Technology and is located in the heart of the Georgia Tech campus. Named after Georgia Tech alumnus Robert Ferst, the mission of the Ferst Center is to enhance the education of Tech students and to serve as a bridge to the greater Atlanta community by offering a showcase of some of the most highly-acclaimed talent from around the world. Funding is provided in part by contributions from individuals, foundations, corporations, the Georgia Council for the Arts through appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly, and the Fulton County Board of Commissioners under the guidance of the Fulton County Arts Council. Major corporate support is provided by the Coca-Cola Company and the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. For ticket information call 404-894-9600 or visit www.ferstcenter.org.

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