



**PRESS RELEASE:**

June 30, 2011

**For immediate release:**

Through August 12, 2011

**For more information:**

Laura C. Lieberman, 770/949-2787

**“DOUGLAS COLLECTS” AT CAC --  
An Exhibition of Selected Private Collections in Douglasville & Douglas County**

*Douglasville, Georgia* – The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County is delighted to present African masks and sculpture, butterflies and seashells, contemporary ceramics, antique dollhouse dishware, 20<sup>th</sup> century Japanese prints, music boxes, Chinese pigs, saddle blankets, folk art Santas, and samovars on loan from private collections in Douglasville and Douglas County in its summer exhibition at the Cultural Arts Center in downtown Douglasville. The exhibition will be on view from July 7<sup>th</sup> through August 12<sup>th</sup>. Hosted by the Historical Society of Douglas County, the reception will be held on Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup>, from 2 until 4 p.m. Many of the collectors whose collections are represented in the exhibit will be present during the reception to discuss the how, what and why they have collected. Cold Stone Creamery ice cream will be served. This event is free and open to the public.

“Frankly, I think this is one of the most exciting shows we have put together in a long time,” commented stained glass artist Mack Porter who has served as the Cultural Arts Council’s Gallery Committee Chair for several years. “When we started looking for interesting local collections and talking to local collectors, we found lots of amazing things and met some great people. The African art collection is really exceptional. A lot of it was purchased when the Detroit Art Museum came onto hard times and was de-accessioning from its collections.”

The African masks and sculpture are owned by Gail Jones, an artist and teacher who moved to Georgia from Michigan about a year ago. Her interest in developing the collection recognized her cultural heritage and has helped inspire her own paintings and photographs. Several of the collectors are artists themselves. Painter Ken Paradise who teaches art classes at the Woodie Fite Senior Center began his career as a nature photographer, and his collections of seashells and butterflies are also sources of artistic inspiration. Another collector who loaned anonymously is a potter who has acquired a very beautiful collection of contemporary ceramics including works by Warren McKenzie, Cynthia Bringle, Jane Peiser, Charles Counts, Cameron Covert and V. Chin among others.

***THE CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL OF DOUGLASVILLE/DOUGLAS COUNTY***

8652 Campbellton Street  
Douglasville, Georgia 30134  
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**[www.artsdouglas.org](http://www.artsdouglas.org)**

Childhood memories inspired collector Clara Porter who received a “Playtime Dish Set” as a gift from a neighbor when the Akro Agate miniature glassware, priced at 78 cents, was beyond her family’s means. She has one small green teacup from her original set and more than 100 of the miniature molded glassware today. Her collection includes examples of all of the brilliant colors of Depression Era glass, transparent and opaque, marbled and amethyst. One of the four samovars from Arifeh Langkilde’s collection is also from her Middle Eastern childhood, a small beaten brass version made for children that she and her sister played with, while the others illustrate various cultures’ elaborate tea-making devices. On display are Russian and Turkish style as well as Persian samovars. Memories are also represented in Claude Abercrombie’s collection of late 20<sup>th</sup> century saddle blankets – he used four of those on display during his Bicentennial ride across the United States in 1976.

Another anonymous collector loaned her family’s 20<sup>th</sup> century Japanese woodblock prints to the exhibit after visiting the Cultural Arts Center in May and seeing the 19<sup>th</sup> Japanese century prints, which had been loaned by the Japanese consulate in Atlanta. Her husband’s family had lived in Japan for many years and purchased a number of fine art prints as mementoes of their time there. Writer Sylvia Krebs who has visited and lived in China many times, collected Chinese pig figurines as easily packed travel souvenirs. Her collection includes 15 small to tiny pigs carved from wood, ceramic, jade and stone, most notably a pig-shaped ink-grinding stone made from soapstone for a Chinese scholar’s desk.

Mary Elizabeth Bolding, like many of the collectors represented in the current exhibit, actually collects a number of different objects – she has substantial collections of teapots, spoons, and music boxes. A selection of about 20 from the almost 100 music boxes she has acquired over the past sixty years is on display at the Cultural Arts Center. For almost as many decades Woodie Fite hand-painted Santa Claus figurines made from commercial slip molded forms, different Santas every year, and for almost every year Anya Mundy’s sister, Mae West (like Woodie, a self-taught folk artists), collected each one, often trading work with Woodie Fite. The fifty different Santa Clauses of the collection Anya Mundy inherited from her sister are on view in the current exhibit at the Cultural Arts Center in Douglasville.

The Cultural Arts Council and its exhibitions at the Cultural Arts Center are supported by its members, sponsors, the City of Douglasville, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners, and Georgia Council for the Arts through appropriations from the State General Assembly. The GCA is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes a great nation deserves great art.

The Cultural Arts Center of Douglasville/Douglas County is located at 8652 Campbellton Street in historic downtown Douglasville, Georgia, about 20 miles from Atlanta and just off I-20 west (exit 36). Hours of operation are Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sundays, 1 until 5 p.m. For directions and more information, please contact the Cultural Arts Council at 770/949-2787 or visit our web site, [www.artsdouglas.org](http://www.artsdouglas.org).

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**CALENDAR LISTINGS: EXHIBITS**

**TITLE:** DOUGLAS COLLECTS:  
An Exhibition of Art, Artifacts & Objects  
from Private Collections in Douglasville & Douglas County

**PLACE:** The Cultural Arts Center of Douglasville / Douglas County  
8652 Campbellton Street  
Douglasville, Georgia 30134

**DATES:** July 7 – August 12, 2011

**RECEPTION:** Sunday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2 – 4 p.m.

**GALLERY HOURS:** Mondays – Fridays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**COST:** Free and open to the public

**CONTACT:** Laura C. Lieberman, 770-949-2787

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