

LIBERTY ARTS NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LIBERTY ARTS ANNOUNCES APPOINTMENT OF NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Durham, NC - Liberty Arts announces the appointment of their new Executive Director, Jennifer L. Collins. With an extensive background in arts administration and design, Jennifer has worked with the Durham Arts Council in the events coordination such as CenterFest and the Durham Art Walk, grant facilitation, exhibits management, and artist resources, and as a designer/illustrator with Vega Metals over the last ten years.

"The Board is extremely pleased with Jennifer's appointment. We're looking to Jennifer to accelerate Liberty Arts' programs, enhance communication with artists in the community, and to bring in more customers. Further, we're looking to Jennifer to help catalyze community involvement", explains Robert M. Bell, Chairman of the Board.

"Durham is a great place for artists, people are very generous here. I am very excited to be part of an organization that is such a great resource for the community and region. I am looking forward to establishing more opportunities for artists in our area, and establishing partnerships with government and civic groups to encourage more large-scale works of art like *The Durham Bull*", states Ms. Collins.

Liberty Arts' first commission, *The Durham Bull* created by Michael Waller and Leah Foushee, was completed in December 2004 and made possible through support of Central Carolina Bank (CCB), now SunTrust Bank. *The Durham Bull* currently resides at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park directly across from the American Tobacco Campus on Blackwell Street and will be permanently placed in the CCB Plaza in the City Center District of downtown at the corners of Corcoran and Parrish Streets in late Spring 2006.

To increase its service to the community, Liberty Arts plans to designate regular "Open Studio" hours for qualified artists who want to use the facilities to create their own three-dimensional works of art, offer beginning and advanced classes in Mold Making and Sand Casting, and to facilitate relations with artists, city and county agencies, civic organization and private citizens to encourage and support the creation and promotion of large-scale publicly placed sculpture.

Liberty Arts will host an Open House at the George Watts Hill Pavilion for the Arts at Durham Central Park during the upcoming Durham Art Walk and Full Frame Film Festival weekend, April 8 & 9, 2006. A bronze pour is scheduled for Saturday, April 8th at 2:00 p.m. to which the public is invited. For more information about open studio hours, classes, and volunteer opportunities at Liberty Arts contact Jennifer Collins at 919-682-2673 or email libertyarts@verizon.net.

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Liberty Arts is a nonprofit sculpture studio and bronze casting facility located in downtown Durham's Central Park District serving North Carolina and the Southeast region.