

EVERHART MUSEUM

NATURAL HISTORY, SCIENCE & ART

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For Immediate Release

Press Photographs are Available Upon Request

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New Student Exhibit Focused on the Impact of Coal Mining on NEPA Landscape Opens June 20, 2008 at Scranton's Everhart Museum

Scranton – June 13, 2008: Inspired by John Willard Raught's coal breaker paintings, area fourth-grade students explored both the beauty and the scarring caused by coal mining in the Northeast Pennsylvania landscape. ***Mining the Landscape: Student Environmental Art***, opening on June 20, 2008 showcases the results of the students' work. Led by photographer and Keystone College art professor Ward Roe, the students created landscape imagery using photography and collage. Environmental conservation and site scarring, mine reclamation, and pollution are a few of the themes explored in the students' work. The students utilized techniques of Impressionism and perspective to illustrate the pollution and changes in the environment in an area borehole of the Lackawanna River, as well as demonstrate the health of the flowering forest of trees in the area around the Everhart Museum in Scranton's Nay Aug Park.

Mining the Landscape is an exhibit project of the Radius Program, which was made possible by a generous grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the support of the Margaret Briggs Foundation. Radius is a three-year initiative of the Everhart Museum, NEIU #19, and the Scranton School District seeking to give students the opportunity to regularly visit the Museum and engage with it in a concentrated way. Students participating in the ***Mining the Landscape*** project are as follows: Robert Hobbs, Morgan James, Andrew Lopez, Ava Maroni, Morgan Murphy, and Victoria Reynolds.

Mining the Landscape complements the exhibit ***Art of the Land: John Willard Raught and the Continuing Northeastern Pennsylvania Landscape Tradition***, which focuses on the 50+ works by John Willard Raught held in the Everhart's permanent collection. ***Art of the Land*** also incorporates work by contemporary artists whose work illustrates Raught's lasting influence on the region's artistic community. These works depict the landscape but are also made from land-based materials such as wood and paper, metal, stone, ceramic, and glass. Central to the interpretive plan of ***Art of the Land*** is the desire to create an aesthetic and intellectual experience which enhances understanding of the changing nature of the physical environment and creates a sense of place. John Willard Raught and the contemporary artists featured in the exhibit have been concerned about the environmental conservation in the region, as well as the industrial impact of the coal mining in the region.

The Everhart Museum is open: noon-4:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Monday; 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Saturday; and noon-5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$5/adults, \$3/students & seniors, \$2/children 6-12, and free to Everhart Museum members. For more information, contact the museum at 570-346-7186 or email general.information@everhart-museum.org.

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About the Everhart Museum: Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art is the largest general museum in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Everhart Museum, located in Nay Aug Park in Scranton, is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to the collection, care and display of a diverse array of artifacts, including natural history, science and fine arts. Through our exhibits and programs, the Everhart Museum has become an invaluable regional resource for educational and cultural opportunities. General support for the museum is received from the Lackawanna County Office of Education & Culture, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the City of Scranton. For more information on the museum visit our website at www.everhart-museum.org or contact us at 570-346-7186.