

**PRESS RELEASE**

**September 19, 2009**

The Arts Council, Inc.  
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**EcoArt Treasure Coast Receives “Culture Builds Florida” grant from State of Florida**

The Arts Council, lead agency for EcoArt Treasure Coast, received notification that the project was one of 109 grants to be funded from a highly competitive field of 277 grants received by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs. The grant is in the amount of \$25,000.

“EcoArt Treasure Coast is an important and pioneering endeavor that utilizes the creativity of the arts to address a variety of environmental concerns in our community. The Arts Council is proud to be partnering with the South Florida Environmental Art Project to bring ecoart to our region. With this funding from the State, it ensures that funds already committed by the Community Foundation from Palm Beach and Martin Counties are leveraged to support the training of artists as possible as ecoartists and help them to bring a project to life for the betterment of our community,” stated Jeanette Mueller, chairman.

Following the launch of a symposium and educational exhibition at the Court House Cultural Center about EcoArt this past Spring, the next step for EcoArt Treasure Coast is to conduct a workshop with local artists who have applied to be considered as the ecoart apprentice artists. Renowned ecoart artist Betsy Damon will conduct this session on November 9.

Additional funding for this project and in-kind support, such as the loan of an eco-friendly vehicle during Damon’s visits to Stuart and studio space for the

apprentices are still needed. If you have resources or ideas to share, please contact us, 772-287-6676.

For more about EcoArt Treasure Coast, visit [www.martinarts.org](http://www.martinarts.org) and follow the links to the many resources that are available on this groundbreaking new art form that is in keeping with today's focus on improving the environment around us.

### **About the Arts Council**

The Arts Council is the designated local arts agency for Martin County. The Arts Council provides services to visual and performing artists, arts organizations, students and the public and strives to instill a passion for and participation in the arts. For more information, please call 772-287-6676 or visit [www.martinarts.org](http://www.martinarts.org). The Arts Council is sponsored in part by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Stuart, Martin County Board of County Commissioners, and private contributions.

### **About the South Florida Environmental Art Project**

The South Florida Environmental Art Project's primary role is to educate the general public, and leaders of key environmental and cultural stakeholder organizations, in South Florida, regarding the significant role eco-art can play to enhance responsible stewardship of environmental resources in the region. To learn more visit [www.sfeap.org](http://www.sfeap.org).