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## **Waukesha Boutique Gallery Hosts Multiple Major Wisc. Glass Artists River's End Gallery Artist Reception on February 20**

**Waukesha, WI, January 6, 2010** – The River's End Gallery announced today an exciting new exhibit of more than six major Wisconsin glass artists. The exhibit opens with an artist reception on Saturday, February 20, 2010 and runs through March 31, 2009. This is the second annual event featuring outstanding Wisconsin glass artists all brought together in one venue.

The exhibit, *Glass Up Your Walls, Glass Art Extravaganza*, opens with a by invitation only artist reception on February 20 at 4 p.m. – 9 p.m. To attend this event guests must register in advance with the gallery to receive a free ticket. The gallery will feature a reception, music, and of course wonderful glass art.

“What an outstanding way to put winter out of our minds,” says, Joan Skimmons, owner of River's End Gallery in Waukesha. “These artists are most of the best Wisconsin glass artists. In January, we reconfigured the gallery to best show the art and to allow the artists to speak with our guests about their spectacular pieces. The gallery is very lovely and is conducive to an elegant evening out.”

### **Some of the artists being exhibited are:**

**Michael RT Hirschmann** has studied glassblowing under some of the best glass artists here in the United States. His artistic education took place at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (Chicago, IL), Water Street Glassworks (Benton Harbor, MI), and other renowned schools. Michael's art consists of blown glass vases, bowls, plates, glasses, and sculptural objects of beauty.

**Martha Kauppi** from Madison earned a B.A. in studio art from Michigan State University in 1982 and soon after took her first glassblowing class. She uses multiple techniques and materials to bring her vision into tangible form. Martha combines kiln working, off-hand furnace work, and blowing, flame working, and cold work to create remarkable wall art.

**Colleen Ott** from Spring Green has a B.S. degree from University of Wisconsin-River Falls and has studied at the Royal College of Art in London, England and received a Master of Fine Arts degree in glass sculpture from University of Wisconsin-Madison. Colleen has received many awards for her work and has been published in numerous magazines, books, and newspapers.

**Jim Sanders** from Waukesha has a university degree in Forestry but his 20 years of interior decorating and design experience have given him an excellent sense of proportion, design, and color, as well as a wonderful sense of style. Jim began working in glass in 2003 with classes at the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, N.Y. His work is called “fused glass” which is an ancient art form to which Jim is constantly bringing modern in innovations.

**Scott Simmons** from Madison has a B.S. and M.S. degrees from University of Wisconsin and in 1997 Scott resigned his career as an electron microscopist to work in hand blown glass full time. Scott creates functional pieces from vases and bowls to playful versions of vessels which exploit the fluid nature of the hot glass.

The exhibit begins with a “**by invitation only**” artist reception on

**Date:** February 20, 4 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Location:** River’s End Gallery  
380 W. Main Street  
Waukesha, WI 53186  
[www.riversendgallery.com](http://www.riversendgallery.com)

**RSVP required:** [RSVP@riversendgallery.com](mailto:RSVP@riversendgallery.com) or 262-896-8875

For an invitation to the event, please e-mail [RSVP@riversendgallery.com](mailto:RSVP@riversendgallery.com) and note “Glass” in the subject line or call 262-896-8875 to request an invitation/ticket.

### About River’s End Gallery

The gallery carries a variety of works for all interests and hosts special exhibits throughout the year. Although many of these artists are from Wisconsin, the gallery also serves artists from Florida, Texas, Illinois, Minnesota, Virginia, Ukraine, and California. The gallery offers sculpture, art glass, art jewelry, large and small paintings, and a few prints. Many of the artists will create commissioned works for buyers with specialized interests. The works on display includes water and landscapes, architectural, floral, figures, people in environments, and animals.

River's End Gallery, located in Historic Downtown Waukesha at 380 W. Main Street. Free parking is available behind the gallery in Clinton Street parking lot.

Phone: 262-896-8875  
Web Site: [www.riversendgallery.com](http://www.riversendgallery.com)  
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Waukesha, WI 53186-6021

Hours: Sunday Noon – 4 p.m.  
Monday Appointment only  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Friday 11 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.