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## All Things Cape Cod

### Cotuit exhibit showcases talented arts community on Cape

Posted on January 11, 2010 by mark.skala  
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The vibrancy of the Cape's art scene is on full display right now at the Cotuit Center for the Arts on Route 28 in Cotuit. There you will find the work of 55 artists who have been selected to participate in the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod's annual free and kid-friendly exhibit. I say kid-friendly because all the work is displayed at about 4 feet, perfect viewing for young Cape Codders.

The "First Things First" exhibit kicked off in fine style Saturday night at an opening reception which was well attended by artists, community leaders and arts patrons. Viewing the exhibit is a great way to forget about snow, cold and the long winter on Cape Cod. The work of these fine artists helps transport you to other places. Hyannisport artist Sam Barber's sculpture of dancers, for example, is playful, whimsical and evokes varied responses.

It is an interactive, educational exhibit highlighting a diverse group of work by the Cape artists who teach, create and make their living here. There are many well-known artists in the exhibit, such as Elizabeth Mumford and Selina Trief, but also others such as Clarke Buchanan of Marstons Mills who created a stunning cowboy hat out of wood.

Hundreds of school children will be viewing the exhibit, free of charge, over the next several weeks. Class trips are planned by many teachers so they can continue to expose their students to the varied artists and forms they work with. The exhibit is a major effort of the Arts Foundation's mission to promote arts and education. Maggie Van Sciver, president of the foundation's board — of which I am a member — took several months perusing through artists' studios, homes and galleries to select the work on display.

It is an impressive show and is sure to make you appreciate the talent we have here on the Cape. As state senate president Therese Murray noted Saturday in her remarks, the Cape is much more than beautiful beaches and a summer playground. We are rich in arts and culture. That is evident at the Cotuit Center for the Arts.

The free show will be open to the public until Feb. 6. You won't want to miss it. For more on the exhibit, check out the story on [wickedlocalcapecod.com](http://wickedlocalcapecod.com).

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