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**PHOTOGRAPHERS CHOSEN FOR ROOKERY BAY EXHIBIT**

Naples, Florida (January 8, 2013) - Works by 23 Florida photographers have been chosen for the annual photography exhibit in the gallery at the Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center. The exhibit is a cooperative partnership between the United Arts Council and Rookery Bay. **The exhibit opens on Tuesday, February 4 and continues through March 27.**

The Friends of Rookery Bay will sponsor an **opening reception from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4.** The reception is open to the public, and refreshments and entertainment will be provided. Admission to the reception is \$3 for the general public, and free to members of the United Arts Council and Friends of Rookery Bay.

Internationally acclaimed photographer **Clyde Butcher** served as juror for the exhibit. A total of 45 photographers submitted works for consideration. Winners of cash prizes for the top spots will be announced by Butcher at the reception.

Photographers selected for the exhibit are: Peter Berkery, Mike Brousseau, Jack Cane, Edwin Cohen, Steve Conley, Marc Damon, Donovan Evans, Stephen Faulk, Allison Ferraro, Robert Kenedi, Kavita Mallik, Norma Jean McLeod, Laurie Meehan-Elmer, Frank Novatsky, Dimitri Sagatov, Philip Reid, Jane Ruprecht, Jane Saul, Jeremy Sterk, Linda Sunderland, Isaac Vaisman, Dana Vannoy and Lisa Willnow.

The Rookery Bay Environmental Learning Center is located at 300 Tower Road, just off CR951, one-half mile south of U.S. 41. The center features aquariums, interactive exhibits, nature films, kayak tours, guided cultural walks, a nature trail with observation platforms and other daily programs. For information about Rookery Bay, call 239-417-6310 or visit [www.rookerybay.org](http://www.rookerybay.org).

The United Arts Council is designated by the state of Florida as the official local arts agency for Collier County. The non-profit organization is responsible for promoting the arts locally and coordinating a consolidated calendar for the county's arts and cultural organizations. To view the calendar and for more information about the local arts community, visit [www.collierarts.com](http://www.collierarts.com).

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