

**For Immediate Release**  
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## ***Pratt Scholarship Exhibition***

*On Display at the Bellevue Arts Museum February 11 - April 23, 2011*  
*Opening Reception: First Friday, March 4, 5:30-7:30pm*

Pratt Fine Arts Center is pleased to present the group show ***Pratt Scholarship Exhibition*** in partnership with the Bellevue Arts Museum from February 11 through April 23, 2011. The show features work by recent Pratt scholarship recipients Granite Calimpong, Armelle Bouchet O'Neill, Julia Harrison, Isabella Leary and Jenny Wittlinger. The exhibiting artists represent five of Pratt's scholarships: the Art Bridge Fellowship, the Jon and Mary Shirley Scholarship in Glass, the Mimi Would! Scholarship, the PONCHO Artist-in-Residence Scholarship, and the Seattle Print Arts Scholarship.

Pratt offers over twenty merit and financial need-based scholarships each year through the generous support of private individuals and local arts organizations. Awards are used towards classes and studio rental at Pratt and are available for artists of color, adults and teens, and emerging and established artists. Scholarship recipients are selected by a panel including local arts professionals and past scholarship recipients. More information about Pratt's scholarship program is available at <http://www.pratt.org/classes/financialaid.html>.

"With a resource intensive medium such as glass, it is hard not to feel the financial strain of experimentation," notes artist Granite Calimpong. "Being the recipient of a Pratt scholarship has allowed me to take my work in new directions that may not have been otherwise possible or that may have taken much longer to find. It has allowed me to address new ideas without the fear of being unsuccessful. There is no greater gift to an artist than to remove the inhibitions that monetary concerns can inflict on creative experimentation."

The BAM/Pratt partnership provides opportunities for free community learning and art appreciation. BAM's Community Education Gallery features student work and exhibits that promote educational enrichment and cultural awareness. The gallery is open during regular museum hours and is free to the public. The *Pratt Scholarship Exhibition* is Pratt's second at BAM.

Pratt instructors also provide free monthly Saturday artist demonstrations at BAM. Upcoming events include a Figurative Clay Sculpting Demonstration with Jeanne Ferraro on February 12 from 1-3pm and a Drawing Techniques Demonstration with Kiki McInnis on March 12 from 1-3pm. Additional information about these demonstrations is available at <http://www.bellevuearts.org/calendar/workshops-demos.htm>.

**What: *Pratt Scholarship Exhibition*:** Granite Calimpong, Armelle Bouchet O'Neill, Julia Harrison, Isabella Leary and Jenny Wittlinger

**Where:** Bellevue Arts Museum, Community Education Gallery, 510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA

**When:** February 11 - April 23, 2011

**Opening Reception:** Friday, March 4, 5:30-7:30pm, Free Museum Admission on First Fridays

**Gallery Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 11am-5pm; Friday, 11am-8pm; Saturday and Sunday, 12-5pm. The Community Education Gallery is open during regular museum hours and is FREE to the public.



Top image: Armelle Bouchet O'Neill, *Nest I*, Blown and Sand Carved Glass, 2010. Photo: Daniel Fox  
Bottom image: Julia Harrison, *Glass Hand*, Kiln-cast Glass, 2010. Photo courtesy of the artist.  
High resolution images are available on request.

About Pratt Fine Arts Center:

Pratt Fine Arts Center was named after Edwin T. Pratt, a civil rights leader whose vision was to improve the quality of life for all people through equal opportunities. Pratt works to maintain this legacy by changing the lives of individuals of all ages, skill levels, ethnicities and economic means - through art. Located in one of Seattle's most culturally diverse and economically disadvantaged areas, Pratt fosters creative expression, community and shared inspiration - providing life-transforming experiences through visual arts training. Pratt offers all people who enter its doors the opportunity to make something unique, to change the way they see their world - and the way they see themselves.

*Since 1976, Pratt Fine Arts Center has offered art classes for everyone and workspace for artists in its equipment-rich facilities in Seattle's Central District.  
Pratt serves 3,400 students each year and more than 500 working artists use Pratt's affordable studios and equipment.*

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