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For Immediate Release:

Buttons Boggs Participates in Public Art Project

Local artist, Buttons Boggs of Walkerton turned an old school desk into a unique outdoor garden sculpture by painting the desk with flowers, leaves, butterflies and caterpillars. In addition, she sculpted and painted a frog to accompany the garden inspired desk. Buttons is participating in the School Daze Public Art Project by the King and Queen Community Development Corporation. Buttons' desk along with 12 other artists' desk sculptures were first publically exhibited at the 2008 Wine and Art Festival at Locust Grove in Walkerton on June 14th.

The desk sculptures will be exhibited at other area locations throughout the coming months in West Point, King and Queen, Essex and Tappahannock. Themes for the desk sculptures include a wide range from school related to quilting to aviation to river and wildlife. The project will conclude with a gala event in spring 2009 where the desk sculptures will be auctioned off as a fundraiser for KQCD and the Marriott School Restoration Project. The Marriott School Restoration Project is the planned renovation of the Marriott School into a community/cultural arts center for residents of King and Queen County and the Middle Peninsula. Business sponsorships are available in support of the public art project and include participation as a desk sculpture sponsor and as a table sponsor at the future gala event. To date sponsors for the School Daze Project include: Country Courier, International Training, Inc., Scott's Store, West Point Glass and West Point Pharmacy.

While Buttons Boggs has had some formal training as an artist from VCU, she has spent time as an artist/writer in residence in King William, Petersburg, Richmond, Norfolk, Gloucester and Virginia Beach. She is an illustrator, portrait painter, muralist, author, storyteller, bookbinder, basket weaver and embroiderer. She loves a variety of mediums including: pen and ink, watercolor, oil, pastel, crayon, pencil, wire and paper mache. Her work has been exhibited at many festivals and galleries including the Virginia Beach Boardwalk, Portsmouth Sea Wall, Hampton Bay Days, Unitarian, Arts in the Park, Zeus Café, Trillium Gallery and Buddy's Restaurant. Some of her illustrations can be viewed in the waiting room of the Aylett Family Medical Center. Buttons received a National Endowment for the Arts Artist in Education Award in 2002-2003. She is currently illustrating a book entitled *Do Spiders Need Leggins When It's Cold Outside?* with author Terri Sebastian. The book should be available by late summer or early fall.

If you would like more information or would like to participate in or volunteer with the School Daze Public Art Project, please contact the KQCD office at 804-769-9656 or email schooldaze@kqcd.org. If you are interested in sponsoring Buttons' desk or another desk sculpture, please contact the KQCD office. For more information about KQCD and the Marriott School Restoration Project, please visit www.kqcd.org.

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