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The Pfister Hotel Names Next Artist in Residence

MILWAUKEE – Feb. 18, 2011 – Home to more Victorian Art than any other hotel in the world, the historic Pfister Hotel in downtown Milwaukee for the past two years has hosted a popular artist-in-residence program. The hotel and its selection committee has now chosen its third artist in residence, Shelby Keefe. She will move into the Pfister's studio space in April 2011, replacing current Pfister artist Katie Musolff, and will remain at the hotel for one year.

"I am so very honored and grateful to be chosen as the next Pfister artist in residence," says Keefe. "I am thrilled with the opportunity to focus on creating a body of work that reflects the beauty of Milwaukee and to work in the magnificent surroundings of The Pfister Hotel. I look forward to growing as an artist and sharing my passion for painting with visitors and guests from all over the world."

Keefe was one of six finalists to have been included in the public voting period, which ended earlier this week. In addition to the public vote via Facebook, Twitter, online and in-person ballots, a selection committee consisting of leaders in the local art community made the final decision on the next artist in residence.

A contemporary impressionistic painter, teacher and performance artist, Keefe was born in Whitewater, Wis., and graduated in 1981 from Cardinal Stritch University in Milwaukee. Since retiring from a career in graphic design in 2005, she has been operating her own art studio and exhibition space in Bay View. Her award-winning urban landscape paintings have earned her participation in prestigious national juried shows, plein air painting competitions and arts festivals, as well as garnering commission work for a variety of corporate clients and private collectors.

"I'm thrilled with the level of talent we saw in the applicant pool for our third year," says Joe Kurth, general manager of The Pfister Hotel. "The overall ability within our region for artists as exemplified in our six finalists is a testament to the growing opportunity for us to continue to use this program as a way for the selected artist in residence to connect with our guests. I am very excited to see what Shelby will bring to our program given her diverse skills as a teacher, artistic coach and performance painter."

The Pfister's Artist-In-Residence Program

Entering its third year, The Pfister's Artist-in-Residence program features a working art

studio and gallery that is open to hotel guests and visitors. The program encourages the public to interact with the artist and witness the evolution of each piece first-hand.

For more information on The Pfister's Artist-In-Residence program, visit www.ThePfisterHotel.com/ArtistInResidence. The Pfister can also be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thePfisterHotel and on Twitter @ PfisterHotel.

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