



1331 ALGOMA BOULEVARD ■ OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN 54901 ■ 920-236-5799 ■ FAX 920-424-4738 ■ museum_info@ci.oshkosh.wi.us

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Contact:
Megan Del Debbio
Marketing and Membership Coordinator
Oshkosh Public Museum
(920) 236-5763
mdeldebbio@ci.oshkosh.wi.us
www.oshkoshmuseum.org

The Art of Jan Brett Exhibit in Final Weeks at Oshkosh Public Museum

The Oshkosh Public Museum's winter exhibit, *The Art of Jan Brett*, closes in two weeks. Museum programming, fun events and gallery additions keep excitement high in final weeks.

Oshkosh, WI – January 15, 2009 – The museum's winter exhibit, *The Art of Jan Brett*, is drawing to a close. The exhibit is in its final two weeks at the museum and will close on Sunday, February 1. The closing weeks of the exhibit offer plenty of fun activities to entertain the whole family.

The entire exhibit features 51 original paintings from some of Brett's best selling books. A recent addition to the exhibit galleries includes six new paintings from celebrated children's author illustrator Jan Brett's most recent book, *Gingerbread Friends*. Come see the latest paintings, now on display in the galleries for a limited time.

The museum will sponsor a special program on Saturday, January 31, that includes a book reading, kids' craft and presentation on hedgehogs, where visitors will get to meet the museum's live hedgehogs, Prickles and Petunia. The craft and book reading will run from 1:00 to 3:00 in the museum lecture room and the hedgehog presentation is scheduled to start at 1:00 in the museum library. Regular admission will be charged for the event.

The museum's hedgehog scavenger hunt will also end on February 1. Can you find all the hidden hedgehogs? Stop by to search high and low for a final chance to win!

Free hot chocolate and cookies will be offered to visitors all afternoon on Sunday, February 1.

All visitors who donate to the museum mitten tree will receive a free children's admission for each pair of new mittens or gloves donated. All contributions to the tree will be donated to the Salvation Army.

So bundle up and head down to the Oshkosh Public Museum for animal entertainment, yummy snacks and great fun!

About Jan Brett

With more than thirty million books in print, Jan Brett is one of the nation's foremost author illustrators of children's books. Renowned for her picture books that annually climb to the top of the best-seller list, Brett decided as a child that she wanted to be an illustrator. "I remember the special quiet of rainy days, when I felt that I could enter the pages of beautiful picture books." Now, Brett

tries to re-create that feeling in her own stories. Her highly detailed paintings and illustrative borders have received international attention and recognition. Jan's inspiration comes from traveling the world to the sites of her stories and researching local architecture, costumes and customs that then appear in her work, exposing the diverse cultures of the world to her readers.

About the Oshkosh Public Museum

The Oshkosh Public Museum was founded in 1924 and is accredited by the American Association of Museums. The museum houses artifacts, photographs, film and archival materials that represent the material culture, ideas and values of Oshkosh and the Lake Winnebago Region. It is dedicated to bringing history and heritage to life through creative, quality exhibitions, programs, publications and other educational experiences. The museum is a center for the preservation of local culture and encourages citizens to discover their community and its heritage. The Oshkosh Public Museum is located at 1331 Algoma Boulevard. Hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 4:30 pm and Sunday, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$3.50 for children (6-17) and free for members.

For more information on *The Art of Jan Brett* and the Oshkosh Public Museum, call (920) 236-5799 or visit www.oshkoshmuseum.org.

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