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Montgomery College to Host Exhibition by Prominent Sculptor Ivan Schwartz
*“Abraham Lincoln: One Man, Two Views” Opens February 8 at College’s
King Street Gallery at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus*

Montgomery College will host the exhibition “Abraham Lincoln: One Man, Two Views, StudioEIS and the Art of Visual Storytelling; Two New Sculptures of Abraham Lincoln in His 200th Year” by sculptor Ivan Schwartz from February 8 – March 4, 2010, at the College’s Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. The exhibition will be on display in the King Street Gallery, which is located in The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center. An opening reception will be held on Wednesday, February 10 at 2 p.m.

“Lincoln: One Man, Two Views” provides a visual journey through the creative process used by Schwartz and his creative team at StudioEIS to arrive at two new bronze sculptures of President Lincoln, both dedicated last year in celebration of the bicentennial of Lincoln’s birth. An independent artist and designer, Schwartz is founder and director of Brooklyn-based StudioEIS, which has produced hundreds of sculpture projects in the public and private sectors for major museums and cultural institutions in the United States and abroad. The exhibition follows the process — from simple sketches to final installations — of two of Schwartz’s latest bronze sculptures, including “Lincoln and his Horse at President Lincoln’s Cottage” at the Soldiers’ Home, Washington, D.C. and “Lincoln at the National Military Park and Visitor Center, Gettysburg, Pa.”

The exhibition at Montgomery College features the early designs, photographs and scale models of the sculptures in various stages of production, as well as a small replica of the artist’s studio at StudioEIS. This exhibit developed after Schwartz presented a lecture on “The Sculptor as Visual Storyteller” at Montgomery College in April 2009. Sponsored by the College’s Paul Peck Institute for American Culture and Civic Engagement, Schwartz’s lecture was one in a series of events held at the College, supported by a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council, to commemorate the Lincoln Bicentennial.

In preparation for the exhibition, Ivan Schwartz wrote, “Andrew Jackson was the first president most people could identify, but Lincoln remains, as Thomas Mallon described in *The New Yorker*, ‘the man with extraordinary soul.’ Lincoln, as Mallon further observed, was ‘the first [president] with a psychology, a delicate mental makeup that suggested itself to anyone who saw his picture in a newspaper, let alone heard him on a platform.’ It is this Lincoln that we have tried to find. Why else would anyone want to make a new sculpture of someone today, if not to find something we have missed, or passed over? I’d like to think, to some small degree, we have been successful, and I’d like to illustrate in this exhibition not only what and how we have done what may be apparent, but to demonstrate to some degree the history of the endeavor — representing the most famous American.”

Founded by brothers Ivan and Elliot Schwartz, StudioEIS has emerged in recent years as one of the nation's leading sculpture and design studios in the field of representational and historical sculpture, having completed a host of sculptural commissions in the United States of presidents, founding fathers, and other historical figures for some of the nation's most important historic sites. Public works completed by Schwartz and his creative team include bronze sculptures of iconic individuals such as Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Harry Truman and Abraham Lincoln, in addition to sculptures of pop icons and sports luminaries. Schwartz's works can be found at Monticello, Montpelier, Mount Vernon, the National Infantry Museum, and the National Museum of Natural History. His design "To Form a More Perfect Union" was incorporated into a U.S. postage stamp in 2005.

The exhibition "Lincoln: One Man, Two Views" will be located in the ground floor of The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center on the west side of the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. The center is located off Georgia Avenue at 930 King Street, Silver Spring, Md. Gallery hours will be weekdays 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Parking will be available in the garage just behind the center or in the College's East Garage, which is a short walk to the center by pedestrian bridge. For directions to and maps of Montgomery College, visit the College's Web site at www.montgomerycollege.edu/maps and click on the link for the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

To learn more about Ivan Schwartz and StudioEIS, visit www.studioeis.com.

For additional information about the upcoming exhibit and the gallery, visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/artstp/gallery or contact Dr. Amy A. Gumaer, acting instructional dean of the arts, humanities and social sciences at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, at 240-567-1380 or Professor Lincoln Mudd, faculty show manager for the exhibition, at 240-567-1370.

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