

November 4, 2005

**GOVERNOR PATAKI ANNOUNCES STATE FUNDING FOR THE
HUDSON VALLEY CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
\$120,000 Will Allow Center in Peekskill to Fund Rehabilitation Project**

On November 4th, 2005 Governor George E. Pataki announced \$120,000 in new State funding for the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art (HVCCA) – an arts and education center in Peekskill, Westchester County – to support the installation of a new roof.

“We are pleased to announce this new funding to the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art,” George Pataki said. “These important resources will help the Center with costs associated with its new roof and will ensure that it continues to operate as a one-of-a-kind arts and education complex in the Hudson Valley.”

The \$120,000 State grant will defray the cost of the Center’s new roof, which was necessary due to leaks caused by the faulty craftsmanship of a roof previously installed. The leaks, which caused irreparable damage to some of the art, were too extensive to be fixed by temporary repairs.

Assemblywoman Galef said, “The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art is a wonderful institution that enriches the residents of the Peekskill, Northern Westchester, and Putnam area and brings tourist dollars into the City of Peekskill. I am please that they are receiving this money to make the repairs necessary to continue their unique mission to bring cutting edge contemporary art to this region.”

Livia Straus, President of the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art said, “We are so pleased with the state’s support of our project and thrilled to be part of Peekskill’s revitalization.”

The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, located in Peekskill is a non-profit arts and education organization founded by the Marc and Livia Straus family. The Center is dedicated to the development and presentation of new art works created by national and international artists, exhibits and interdisciplinary programs that enrich the understanding of contemporary art and its relationship to social issues.

HVCCA is also committed to the enrichment of Peekskill, a multicultural community that has become a major arts destination. HVCCA operates a 12,000 square foot exhibition space and is the primary sponsor of the Peekskill Project, a city-wide exhibition of site-specific artwork by over 100 artists drawn from the Global community.

HVCCA currently offers the following programs to local and international visitors: (1) Changing exhibitions of contemporary art by both well-known and emerging artists, (2) Artist-in-Residence, which provides overseas artists with the opportunity to dialogue with and to create long-term installations at the Center and in the community, (3) Education and Public outreach, presenting lectures, panel discussions and that are offering educational opportunities for students and adults, and (4) Special Projects, interdisciplinary and/or collaborative.