

**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release:**

February 3, 2009

**Contact:**

Howard M. Pollman  
Marketing Director  
PHMC  
(717) 705-8639  
[hpollman@state.pa.us](mailto:hpollman@state.pa.us)

**Gallery Talk on Black Participation in Philadelphia's New Deal Arts Projects  
Scheduled in Recognition of Black History Month at The State Museum of  
Pennsylvania**

**Harrisburg, PA** – Dr. Arthur Jarvis, assistant professor of history at Montgomery County Community College, Pottstown Campus will present a talk titled Black Participation in the Philadelphia New Deal Arts Projects on Saturday February 21, 2009 at 2:00 pm at The State Museum of Pennsylvania.

Jarvis' talk, which will take place in the first floor gallery of The State Museum, will explore the contributions of African Americans to various federal arts projects in Philadelphia during the Great Depression. The lecture will feature slides of murals, posters and other artworks created by black Philadelphians during this period. Jarvis will also share some of the adventures he experienced while conducting his research into this overlooked aspect of New Deal art. The lecture is FREE to the public. No registration is required.

Professor Jarvis' lecture is the second of three gallery talks being offered in conjunction with A Common Canvas, a special exhibit at The State Museum of Pennsylvania which will be on view until May 17. This exhibit offers visitors a glimpse of some of the extraordinary murals and sculptures created for Pennsylvania post offices during the New Deal, and the stories behind the artwork.

The State Museum's Dr. Curt Miner, senior curator of Popular Culture and co-curator of A Common Canvas will be available for discussion after the talk.

The State Museum of Pennsylvania, located at 300 North Street, is one of 25 historic sites and

museums on the Pennsylvania Trail of History, administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 9 am to 5 pm., and Sunday, 12 Noon to 5 pm. Closed Mondays. Individuals who need special assistance should call (717) 787-6887 or the Pennsylvania TDD relay service at (800) 654-5984. More information on The State Museum is available online at [www.statemuseumpa.org](http://www.statemuseumpa.org).