Press Release -

Original oil paintings created by Monica Vachula to illustrate <u>Paul Revere's Ride</u> and <u>Noah Webster: Weaver of Words</u> will be on exhibit in the Art Gallery at the Concord Free Public Library from April 3 – 29, 2010.

Vachula, of Harvard, is an artist whose paintings, drawings and prints have been exhibited throughout New England. Her work has received numerous awards and can be found in many collections.

Occasionally, she has been called upon to illustrate children's books, particularly those with historical themes. While <u>Paul Revere's Ride</u> concentrates on a single event that took place one night in April and <u>Noah Webster: Weaver of Words</u> tells the story of a very full and very long life, both books are about men who made extraordinary contributions to this country during its early years.

Vachula is delighted to have this opportunity to exhibit at the Concord Free Public Library, as it seems the perfect setting in which to show these pictures that combine her love of painting, her love of books and her interest in the arts of America during the 18th and early 19th centuries.

Artist's Bio-

Harvard artist Monica Vachula is a native of Hatfield, MA, and is a graduate of Smith College, where she majored in art. Her paintings, prints and drawings have been exhibited at many locations throughout New England, including the George Walter Vincent Smith Museum, the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts, the Worcester Museum of Art, the Fitchburg Museum, the Berkshire Museum, Smith College, the Concord Art Association and the St. Botolph Club, to name a few. Her work can be seen regularly at the Francesca Anderson Gallery in Lexington, where she has been represented for more than 25 years. She currently paints primarily in oil on panel, and has a particular interest in the still life.

In addition to Longfellow's <u>Paul Revere's Ride</u> and <u>Noah Webster: Weaver of Words</u> by Pegi Deitz Shea, Monica has illustrated several other books for children, including <u>Tea</u> <u>With an Old Dragon</u> by Jane Yolen and <u>In Bikole</u> by Tom Gilroy.