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SEE THE MONA LISA WITHOUT GOING TO FRANCE

Wilmington, DE (February 11, 2009)—The Delaware Art Museum is displaying a replica of Leonardo da Vinci's portrait of the *Mona Lisa* in the Museum's Bank of America Education Wing from February 18, 2009, through March 22, 2009.

Painted over 500 years ago, Leonardo da Vinci's portrait of the *Mona Lisa* is one of the most recognized paintings in the world. For centuries the public has been intrigued with this iconic image, and artists around the globe have admired, studied, and reproduced it in order to understand its technique.

The Norwegian artist Tor Egil Hansen (born 1964) painted a remarkable replica of the *Mona Lisa* over the course of five months in 2004 – 2005, taking approximately 400 hours to complete. For a short time, the Museum is displaying this replica along with several photographs documenting its creation in the Bank of America Education Wing, where artists of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to seek insight into Da Vinci's methods.

The Delaware Art Museum, located at 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806, is open Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Sunday noon – 4:00 p.m. Admission fees are charged as follows: Adults (19 – 59) \$12, Seniors (60+) \$10, Students (with valid ID) \$6, Youth (7 – 18) \$6, and Children (6 and under) free. Admission fees are waived every Sunday thanks to support from AstraZeneca. For more information, call 302-571-9590 or 866-232-3714 (toll free), or visit the website at www.delart.org.

Founded in 1912, the Delaware Art Museum is best known for its large collection of British Pre-Raphaelite art, works by Wilmington-native Howard Pyle and fellow American illustrators, and urban landscapes by John Sloan and his circle. Visitors can also enjoy the outdoor Copeland Sculpture Garden and a number of major traveling exhibitions throughout the year.