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**News Release
For Immediate Release**

**Woman on a Grid: The Life and Times of Maria Neary
*A Colorado Haiti Project Fundraiser***

Exhibit April 5 – 27, 2009 at St. John's Boulder Art Gallery
Artist Reception, April 19, 2009, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., free and open to the public.

Families with children are especially encouraged to attend.

Boulder, Colo. (March 17, 2009) – Maria Neary's acrylic's and mixed media grids are collections of pictographs that tell her story. Her paintings incorporate text, some of which is deliberately illegible. Since stories always contain universal truths, this device is one way Maria encourages her viewers to interpret the piece and create their own story. Even her method is story-based for Maria contends that *the words inspire the image*. Her work is also inspired by abstract expressionism and the art of the storyboard. Maria comes to her art via the threshold of her first profession as an animator for **Sesame Street**.

Because Haiti's story is so compelling to Maria, she is donating 40% of the sales from the show to the **Colorado Haiti Project**. In addition, she hopes the exhibit and her work with children at St. John's will initiate an art card exchange between them and the children of Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti, who attend St. Paul's School supported by the **Colorado Haiti Project**.

About the St. John's Boulder Art Gallery

The St. John's Art Boulder Art Gallery is a non-profit organization established by St. John's Episcopal Church. It serves as a venue for talented local and regional artists. Juried shows are developed around themes, and submissions must be appropriate for all ages. Located at 1419 Pine Street, the St. John's Art Gallery is free and open to the public. Visit the gallery on line at www.stjohnsboulder.org/artgallery/

About the Colorado Haiti Project

The Colorado Haiti Project (CHP) is a state-wide non-profit organization founded in 1989 to extend aid to the poorest of the poor in a rural area called Petit Trou de Nippes, about 80 miles west of Port-au-Prince. CHP is supported entirely by donations from private individuals, foundations, and over 40 Episcopal churches in Colorado. Our primary mission is with the Episcopal Mission of St. Paul's, where we work in collaboration with the Priest-in-Charge, Archdeacon Kesner Gracia and a committee of community advisors, to help provide education, vocational training, health care, nutrition and clean water within the mission setting. Visit the Haiti Project on the web at www.coloradahaitiproject.org