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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**REVOLVING MUSEUM TO SHOWCASE YOUTH-MADE ROBOTS  
THAT ARE STARS IN A NEW REALITY TV SHOW!**

*Experience the latest artistic experiment at the ever-evolving Revolving Museum.  
September 7<sup>th</sup> from 7-10pm at the Revolving Museum, 22 Shattuck St. in downtown Lowell.  
Light refreshments will be served.*

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This special event will showcase a film featuring a variety of robotic personalities living together in a parody of some popular reality TV shows. "The Byte Life" consists of eight quirky and varied characters, including an angry onion, a naïve flower, an insecure vacuum cleaner, and a body-building mussel. Each student built one of these characters for the show, using programming and complex mechanics to create movement and artistic principles to present aesthetically pleasing pieces. Most of the characters are controlled off-screen through buttons and switches. The voices in the film are the students as well, allowing them to bring life to their characters.

Various characters will be on display for the opening of the film. Storyboards and concept designs will be shown, along with a daily journal from the students about the making of the film.

Artbotics is collaboration between the University of Massachusetts computer science and arts departments and The Revolving Museum (recently awarded the Massachusetts Cultural Council Commonwealth Award in the category of "Community". The program, developed by Professor Holly Yanco with the support of a National Science Foundation grant, is in its second year. The primary goal of the program is to encourage high school and college student participation in technology. Students combine fundamental principles of computer science and art and create interactive museum displays. College students work with high school students as co-learners and mentors. This summer the students have been busy at work at The Revolving Museum's lab space, creating both robotic creatures and a short film.

UML offers a college level course called Artbotics in the spring as well as a fall, spring and summer Artbotics program open to both high school students and college mentors. Diana Coluntino, Art Instructor from the Revolving Museum, leads the various groups at the museum and works collaboratively with UML Computer science professors Holly Yanco and Fred Martin and art department professor Hyun Ju Kim. College students Megan Reichlin, Adam Norton and Luis Gutierrez participated are currently serving as mentors. The summer participating high school students, some graduated seniors, are Rachel Baxter, Lisa Hean, Thao Chau, Henson Phan, Johnny Chanthavong, Vannary Tan, Trong Nguyen, and Richard Tia.

## **About The Revolving Museum**

The Revolving Museum is an evolving laboratory of creative expression for people of all backgrounds, ages, and abilities who seek to experience the transformative power of art. Through public art, exhibitions, and educational programs, The Museum promotes artistic exploration and appreciation; encourages community participation and growth; and provides opportunities for empowerment and social change.

Also on display is The Revolving Museum's ARTVENTURES public art series that highlighting the city of Lowell's evolution from its role in America's Industrial Revolution to its development as a major center of a Creative Revolution. This series of adventuresome and historically grounded projects will use public art, education programs and beautification projects to transform historically significant, yet underutilized, urban sites situated on and around the Merrimack River into exciting places that both enhance public enjoyment and promote artistic provocation and dialogue. This public art festival is up until Sept. 25, 2007

The current gallery exhibition entitled "Electrifying: The Art of Light and Illumination" is a group show of over 200 artworks made by artists, youth, and community members that celebrates the history of the building, once the Lowell Gas and Light Headquarters. This show is up until Jan. 1, 2008

The Museum is open, free of charge, Tuesday through Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm.

For more information, call (978) YES ARTS (978-937-2787) or visit [www.revolvingmuseum.org](http://www.revolvingmuseum.org).

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