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For Immediate Release

Ancient Art of Thailand and Cambodia on Exhibit at GSU

University Park, May 3, 2006 - Artistic expression motivated by faith often inspires deep appreciation and understanding in the observer. The collection of over forty stone and bronze sculptures to be displayed at the Governors State University Art Gallery serves that purpose.

"Images of the Devine: Ancient Art of Thailand and Cambodia" will be shown at the GSU gallery from May 8 to May 25. A reception on Friday, May 12, from 6 to 9 p.m. will celebrate this unique show.

This selection of sculptures from the New York Collection of David Gelbard represents Thai and Cambodian artwork from the Sixth through the 15th century. The show includes early Brahmanic or Hindu sculptures of several deities such as Vishnu, Shiva, and Ganesh, as well as those of Theravada Buddhism representing Buddha as a teacher.

"The whole succession of development of art over six centuries is endlessly fascinating, yet the deep beauty and spirituality of these sculptures are clear," observes Dr. Arthur Bourgeois, professor of art at GSU and curator of the Asian Art exhibition. "Both the scholar and the layman can appreciate and be touched by the profound serenity and craftsmanship of the many images of Southeast Asia in this extraordinary exhibit."

The art gallery, located on the main campus of Governors State University, 1 University Parkway, University Park, is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.