

Stockton's Kramer Hall Displays 'A Touch of Glass' Exhibit

For Immediate Release; with photo attached

Tuesday, May 27, 2014

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Galloway Township, NJ- The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's Kramer Hall instructional site presents "A Touch of Glass" exhibit in its display case located on the third floor of Kramer Hall, 30 Front St. in Hammonton. The display will be open throughout **June** during the following hours: Monday and Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m. Kramer Hall is closed on Fridays during the summer.

Patt Martinelli, author and curator of the Vineland Historical Society, prepared the exhibit with glass paperweights from the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society of Vineland, NJ.

After paperweights first became popular in the 19th century, glassblowers in South Jersey initially copied the elegant European styles that often contained cameos or "millefiori" (thousands of flowers) made of colored glass. By the late 1800s, glassblowers in South Jersey began to experiment with a new design that later became known as the "Millville Rose." This unique type of paperweight, originated by Ralph Barber at Whitall Tatum Glassworks in Millville, was also produced by master glass artists such as Emil Larson and John Ruhlander.

New Jersey was once home of the first successful glass factory in America. Wistarburgh, located just outside of the tiny town of Alloway in Salem County, started producing glass in 1738 and remained in operation until 1783. Later, the workers disbursed through the region, starting glass factories in towns such as Glassboro, Millville, Hammonton, and Bridgeton. By the mid-19th century, there were approximately 200 glass factories in New Jersey. Vineland was the home of the Vineland Flint Glass Works, whose Durand art glass remains highly collectible today.

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For more information on Kramer Hall's exhibits, visit <u>www.stockton.edu/hammonton</u> or like the <u>Stockton College Kramer Hall page</u> on Facebook.

An extension of the exhibit, titled "The Glass Room," can be seen at the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society Museum in Vineland, NJ. For more information on the "The Glass Room" exhibit, visit http://www.vinelandhistory.com/exhibits.php.