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## Downtown Yonkers opens 3rd art gallery this weekend

*Ernie Garcia*  
*The Journal News*

YONKERS - A local arts group will open a new downtown art gallery tomorrow.

The Blue Door Gallery at 13 Riverdale Ave. is a project of the Blue Door Artist Association, a Yonkers-based arts group. The inaugural show includes 40 works by 31 artists from Yonkers and elsewhere in Westchester County; the artists' reception will be from 1 to 6 p.m. tomorrow.

Luis Perelman, the association's president, said the gallery's goal was to offer about six exhibits a year, plus such special events as poetry readings.

Blue Door has organized a number of exhibits in recent years, with many at the Yonkers Public Library's Riverfront branch in a fourth-floor gallery. Perelman said his group sought its own exhibition space because access to the library was limited.

There is no theme to the gallery's inaugural show, curated by muralist Richard Haas and fiber artist and critic Sandra Sider. Haas has two large murals dedicated to Yonkers' history at Riverdale Avenue and Main Street.

One of the selected artists is Dobbs Ferry painter Mark Jacobson, who submitted a large acrylic painting, "Tightrope," which shows a woman walking on a rope inside a derelict factory.

"The ruins represent the bad things in our world - warfare, decay and corruption," said Jacobson. "The reason she is poised on the tightrope is because each of us has to remain poised."

The Blue Door gallery is in the Windham Hotel, transitional housing for formerly homeless people run by Westhab, a nonprofit housing development and social services organization. The agency has signed a five-year lease with Blue Door to occupy a ground-floor storefront.

The Blue Door Gallery is the downtown area's third art gallery. In addition to the Riverfront library's gallery, the Hudson River Gallery and Conservators have one at 86 Main St.

The library's next show of drawings and paintings by Drew Macko will start April 1, and the Hudson River Gallery's current show of paintings by Martin Moskof will run through April 20.

The Blue Door Gallery will be open from noon to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday and from 2 to 7 p.m. Friday.

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