

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOME TO TIBET: Film Screening and Discussion

January 24, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Brattleboro Museum & Art Center

Admission: \$4 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 students

FREE to BMAC members and children under 6

Tibet is one of the themes at Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, introduced in the Activity Gallery with the exhibit of Peter Sís's "Tibet Through the Red Box," repeated in the Museum Gift Shop with some beautifully crafted wares from Tibet, and now echoed with the screening and discussion of a locally-produced documentary film. On Thursday, January 24 at 7:30 p.m., Brattleboro Museum & Art Center presents "Home To Tibet." Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, \$2 for students, and free to BMAC members.

Produced and directed by filmmakers Alan Dater and Lisa Merton, "Home to Tibet" offers a rare view into the world of Tibet and its people. Interweaving archival footage, interviews, and scenes from intimate family interactions, the film follows the journey of exiled Tibetan stonemason Sonam Lama from his home in Massachusetts to his occupied homeland for the first time since his escape 12 years earlier. Following a private audience with Dalai Lama, Sonam is eventually reunited with his sister in Lhasa. Shocked by the bleakness and repression of Tibetan life under occupation, Sonam encourages his sister and cousin to send their young daughters to be educated in the Tibetan exile community in India. Their decision is a story of hope – the hope of the Tibetan people to preserve their culture and way of life and to secure a future for their children. Filmmaker Alan Dater and Sonam Lama will be on hand for the screening. BMAC will open at 6:30 p.m. for those wishing to view "Peter Sís—Tibet Through the Red Box" or other exhibits.

Museum galleries are open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday except Tuesday; please check for holiday and exhibit change closings before visiting. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, \$2 for students. Museum members and children six years old and younger are admitted free of charge. The Brattleboro Museum & Art Center is located in Union Station at the intersection of Main Street (Route 5) and Routes 119 and 142 in downtown Brattleboro. The Museum is

wheelchair accessible, and parking is available in front of the building. For more information, call 802-257-0124 or visit www.brattleboromuseum.org.

The Brattleboro Museum & Art Center is a nonprofit organization founded in 1972, with a mission to present art and ideas in ways that inspire, educate, and engage people of all ages. Compelling new exhibits by regional and internationally acclaimed artists are shown each season. The Museum Gift Shop, free to the public during regular Museum hours, features an assortment of cards, games, books, prints, educational and gift items including work of many local artists. The Museum is financially supported by grants, donations, and sponsorships, and by membership and program fees. The 2008 season is sponsored by Entergy Vermont Yankee.