

RedLine Milwaukee, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Artist Residency | Education | Exhibitions | Workshops and Outreach

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 1, 2015 For More Information Contact: April Heding – Development & Exhibitions Coordinator <u>april.redlinemke@gmail.com</u> | 414-491-9088

A bobblehead museum! Wait, you're shaking your head? - Geoff Edgers, Washington Post

Bobbleheads: Real & Fantastical Heroism – The first glimpse of the museum will be on view January 22 through April 30, 2016 at RedLine Milwaukee.

(Milwaukee, WI) RedLine Milwaukee and The National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum have teamed up to bring Milwaukee the first glimpse of the future museum in an unforgettable exhibition: *Bobbleheads: Real & Fantastical Heroism.* The National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum announced in November of 2014 that it is coming to the city of Milwaukee in the future. "*We knew there would be interest; however, the buzz is even more than we expected. We have been interviewed by The Associated Press and Washington Post, and asked to appear on The Today Show. We are still in the planning phase; however, we didn't want to make bobblehead fans wait, so we are thrilled to partner with RedLine Milwaukee to give everyone the first glimpse of the collection." – Co-founders Phil Sklar and Brad Novak.*

"Bobbleheads: Real & Fantastical Heroism presents both a challenge and an opportunity for RedLine Milwaukee. While we will be in our 6th year as a growing non-profit, we expect this exhibition will attract thousands of visitors and international attention. We are going to need partners from our community to make this happen."– RedLine Milwaukee Executive Director Jeanne Jarecki. The next phase in planning is to identify Milwaukee sports teams, corporations, businesses, media, and individual sponsors who want to be an integral part of this fantastical event.

Bobbleheads: Real & Fantastical Heroism is an integral part within Redline Milwaukee's 2015-2016 exhibition series, paying homage to artists who make everyday a maker's day. Bobbleheads: Real & Fantastical Heroism is the perfect exhibit to start the conversation about the **changing world of art, exploring the increasing emphasis and value placed on the creative class and places for makers**. With a focus on heroes, exhibitions examine human subjects, natural environments, and objects working in collaboration. School groups and visitors will be asked to ponder the construct of a *hero*. How do we define *hero*, and who is one? What are the differences and similarities between a real hero and a fantastical one? What role does **heroism play in social activism**?

Utilizing a timeline approach, the exhibition will take a deep dive into the history and making of bobbleheads as cultural objects. Each segment will explore the historical and cultural significance of design and materials. Beginning in 1842, with the first known bobblehead reference in Nikolai Gogol's short story "The Overcoat," to bobbleheads appearing in the 1950s, and continuing to the 1970's with changes in technology allowing customizable characterizations, including band members, cartoon characters, political leaders, and historical figures. Concluding in the present day, the exhibition will feature **artwork from the Bobblehead Hall of Fame Mascot Design contest, and "make it/take it" area, where visitors and students can design and create bobbleheads.**

Visit <u>www.redlineartmke.org/bobbleheads</u> throughout the year for more details; learn more about The National Bobblehead Hall of Fame and Museum here <u>www.bobbleheadhall.com</u>.

RedLine Milwaukee, a 501(c)(3) charitable organizations, is an urban laboratory that seeks to nourish the individual practice of contemporary art and to stimulate the creative potential of the local community to which we are linked. Through residency, education, outreach and challenging exhibition programs with a focus on social justice, RedLine inspires and impacts new generations of cultural and civic transformers.