Furniture Exhibit Dovetails Past with Present
‘Tradition of Craft’ exhibit opens at CT Historical Society in Hartford

Hartford, CT (March 20, 2012) – The Connecticut Historical Society (CHS) and the Society of American Period Furniture Makers (SAPFM) present A Tradition of Craft: Current Works by the Society of American Period Furniture Makers, a major exhibition on view at CHS from March 30 – September 8, 2012. A unique pairing of old and new craftsmanship, the exhibition showcases the work of contemporary woodworkers alongside authentic 18th- and 19th-century tools and furniture from the collection of the CHS.

Compare 34 pieces to the kinds of work that inspired them – furniture from the CHS collection that families once used, treasured, and passed down to future generations. Examine and admire American craftsmanship then and now. Selections created by today’s members of SAPFM include hand tools, tables, chairs, chests, and other household items. These skilled and passionate woodworkers keep traditional craft alive with precise, painstaking work and an appreciation of historical techniques and styles.

Exhibit-related programs and events include an opening conference on March 31, a family day on June 2, and period furniture workshops. The opening conference will include workshops and case studies for furniture makers and collectors, tours of the new exhibit, and a keynote lecture by Philip Zea, President of Historic Deerfield, Inc. A replica of Benjamin Franklin’s 1761 glass armonica will also be featured and performed on during this opening conference. SAPFM member Steven Lash will discuss the building of this special piece and musician Vera Meyer will demonstrate its unique attributes. The Family Day will include hands-on activities, live demonstrations of traditional craftspeople, and tours of the exhibit as well. For details on either, visit www.CHS.org or call 860-236-5621 for more information.

A Tradition of Craft: Current Works by the Society of American Period Furniture Makers is made possible by Keno Auctions and the Society of American Period Furniture Makers. CHS is located at 1 Elizabeth Street in Hartford. For more, visit www.chs.org.

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About The Connecticut Historical Society:

Founded in 1825, the Connecticut Historical Society is a non-profit museum, library, research and education center. CHS strives to inspire and foster a life-long interest in history and ignite a passion for learning about history through research assistance, exhibitions, tours and programs for all ages. Visit www.chs.org or call 860.236.5621.