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**ENESCO DESIGNERS EXPLORE *THE ART OF TEA* FOR
NEWEST ARTIST GALLERY COLLECTION**

Fourth Collaboration in Ongoing Design Series Celebrates a Much-Collected Household Staple

Itasca, Illinois (July 14, 2010) – Applying the creativity and breadth of design talent for which Enesco is known, fourteen of the company’s top artists and design teams have collaborated to create a line of unique and original teapots for the newest edition of the Enesco Artist Gallery Collection. The collection ranges from traditional teapots to contemporary designs – many fully functional, and some “just for fun.”

All Enesco artists – including both licensed and in-house designers – are invited to participate in the semiannual Artist Gallery collaboration. *The Art of Tea* is the fourth collection in the series, which originated in 2009. Previous lines have included Nativity Scenes, Banks, and a Snowmen and Santas collection that debuted earlier this year.

“The Artist Gallery showcases the talent and innovation of our best-known artists, giving them an additional creative outlet to express their originality,” said Sujata Luther, executive vice president and managing partner of Enesco, who oversees the company’s creative development, product design and marketing functions. “We choose teapots for this season’s Artist Gallery collection because they are an essential household staple, and yet they are also one of the most treasured and highly collected decorative items around the world,” she added.

The *Art of Tea* Collection includes original creations from **Jim Shore**, *Our Name is Mud* Designer **Lorrie Veasey**, and Principal Artist **Karen Hahn**, who marks her 25th anniversary with Enesco this year. While many artists, such as *Snowbunnies* designer **Kristi Jensen Pierro**, created designs as part of their established brands, others chose to celebrate their multifaceted artistic interests. For example, *Charming Tails* creator **Dean Griff** expresses his passion for nature with a collection of single-serve teapots inspired by birds that represent the four seasons.

Details on the 2010 Artist Gallery “Art of Tea” Collection follow. For additional product information or high-resolution digital images, please contact Enesco corporate communications.

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Enesco Artist Gallery “Art of Tea”
July 14, 2010

Jim Shore for Boyds: “Home is Where the Tea Is”

A Jim Shore and Boyds collaboration, “**The Potsley Family Teapot...Home is Where the Tea Is,**” is a tribute to the worldwide tea tradition. Originating in China, “Tea Time” has become a custom throughout European, American, and especially, British homes. The Potsley Family Teapot features Jim Shore’s unique and inspirational use of color and folk-art designs as little resin bears play inside, on top of, and all around their teapot home. Inside, the Potsley family observes the tea time tradition together at their tiny dining table



Jim Shore for Boyds, “The Potsley Family Teapot...Home is Where the Tea Is”
10”H Bearstone Resin. SRP \$134.99

Dean Griff: “The Four Seasons”

“Much like birds, each season has its own unique beauty and often ‘flies by’ too quickly for us to take in all of the beauty it has to offer,” notes Dean. In this collection, **Spring Bluebird** represents the welcome arrival of spring. A graceful **Summer Swan** in flight represents summertime and how quickly it seems to pass by. The busy little **Fall Chickadee** represents the autumn harvest. And finally, a vibrant **Winter Cardinal** represents the season of our most beloved and colorful holidays.



Designed by Charming Tails creator Dean Griff, each fully functional single-serve teapot is made of chip-resistant dolomite ceramic and has a suggested retail price of \$20.00.

Our Name is Mud by Lorrie Veasey: “Kit-Tea Cat”

As Lorrie Veasey sees it, “Everything tastes better with cat hair in it – including my favorite beverage: tea. I’ve been known to imbibe 12 to 14 cups of the black stuff on a daily basis, so I was thrilled to combine my love of feline friends with my caffeine addiction to create this whimsical teapot.”

Kit-Tea Cat by Lorrie Veasey
5.5”H Dolomite ceramic. SRP \$25.00



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Karen Hahn: “Tee Pot”

“Although I have never stepped onto a golf course, ‘Tee Pot’ was the first thing that came to mind when we were discussing the new Artist Gallery theme,” says Enesco Principal Artist Karen Hahn. “The visual of a big, white golf ball topped with an assortment of colored tees would not leave my brain, no matter how hard I tried to rethink it!”

Tee Pot by Karen Hahn is 8” high and made of glazed ceramic. SRP \$25.00

Heartwood Creek by Jim Shore: “A Country Tradition”

Iconic American artist Jim Shore combined his love of quilting and family tradition to create this teapot, based on traditional rooster-inspired folk design. “Roosters have always been special for me. My grandmother loved them. When I was a kid I used to give her drawings or carvings of roosters for her birthday or Mother’s Day or just because. She wound up with quite a collection. I still think of her when I design one today.”



A Country Tradition by Jim Shore: Stoneware with under-glaze; 9” high. SRP \$50.00



Enesco Artist Lauren Picciuca: “Tweet Tea”

“The colors in nature are blooming, and the birds are singing a cheerful tune. Spring is finally here! **Tweet Tea** was designed to remind us of the beauty of spring. Share a cup of tea with a friend and take a moment to enjoy the season,” says Lauren.

Tweet Tea by Lauren Picciuca 6”H stoneware. SRP \$25.00

Kim Lawrence: “In Spiral”

Kim’s well-known designs include the popular and contemporary *Circle of Love* and *Pillars* collections from Enesco. For this challenge, Kim was “in-spiraled” by a special design element. “The spiral is my very favorite shape to draw, paint and design with, so I thought it most fitting to start there,” says Kim. “Revered by many cultures as a symbol of balance, awareness, evolution, release, connection and the cosmos, the Spiral is a very special motif. So, put the water to boil, select your favorite tea, collect your thoughts, and get in-spiraled!”



In Spiral by Kim Lawrence 7”H stoneware. SRP \$25.00

Children of the Inner Light by Marci: “Home and Family”

Marci’s beloved childlike designs are featured on her contribution to *The Art of Tea*. “The road to life has many turns... sometimes taking us to a place we had planned... sometimes showing us a surprise around the bend we could never have anticipated,” notes Marci. “This has been my inspiration in designing my new *Children of the Inner Light* ‘Home and Family’ teapot as all roads in life, no matter how far they wind, ultimately bring us closer to our true home and our loving family.”



Home and Family by Marci
7”H bas relief stoneware. SRP \$35.00



Just Too Cute by Teresa Thompson: “Viva La Friendship”

The new collection of girly, swirly curlicued items from Teresa Thompson debuted during the winter market. Teresa’s teapot inspiration? “I love getting together with my girlfriends and having tea parties. We get dressed up and serve tea sandwiches, pastries, and wonderful teas. And a beautiful teapot is a must!”

Viva La Friendship by Teresa Thompson
6.5”H stoneware. SRP \$54.99

Snowbunnies by Kristi Jensen Pierro: “Flowers for Bunny”

Award-winning artist Kristi Jensen Pierro is best known for *Snowbabies* and *Snowbunnies* from Department 56. For the Art of Tea collection, Kristi designed this adorable teapot-style covered box based on her love of spring, flowers and bunnies – imagining a bunny wrapped in a blanket of flowers from her garden.



Flowers for Bunny by Kristi Jensen Pierro
5”H porcelain covered box. SRP \$18.50

Ann Dezendorf for Possible Dreams: “Tea for Two”

“Not everybody knows that Santa makes the most delicious Irish soda bread and always celebrates St. Patrick’s Day with his beloved Mrs. C,” says Ann. “I taught my daughters how to make Irish Soda Bread when they were in Girl Scouts. We had a wonderful mother/daughter tea with linens and lace and many wonderful teapots.”

Tea for Two by Ann Dezendorf
Clothique™ decorative two-piece set; 10”H. SRP \$75.00





A Lovely Day by Department 56: “Flower Girl”

Inspired by Japanese cherry blossoms, this sweet floral design is sure to make you think of spring and relaxing in a tranquil garden with a soothing cup of tea. The flowers and vines are each sculpted, not simply decaled, on this ceramic teapot. The teapot holds 36 oz., perfect for a spring tea party. Coordinating cups are also available in this new line from Department 56.

Flower Girl from Department 56
Ceramic, 7.75”H, SRP \$35.00

Boys: “Hattie Teabeary with Chami, Pekoe and Earl”

The Victorian custom of “afternoon tea” starting in the early 19th Century produced a special tradition for friends to join together to enjoy a light meal before dinner, a warm cup of tea and most importantly to socialize with one another. **Hattie Teabeary with Chami, Pekoe & Earl** celebrates tea time friendships with a tribute to the elegant Victorian styles that were worn and displayed during traditional afternoon teas including delicate lace embellishments, elaborate floral teapot designs and of course a sophisticated tea hat!

Hand-numbered limited edition of 2,400 pieces for 2010.



Hattie Teabeary from Boys
Plush bear with velvet hat and flowers; fabric teapot has three miniature bears. 16”H, SRP \$49.99



Mrs. Stout with Lil’ Steamy
from Boys - Bearstone (resin),
10” H. SRP \$69.99

Boys Bearstone: “The Sweetest Kind of Tea”

Inspired by the beloved children’s song “I’m a Little Teapot,” **Mrs. Stout with Little Steamy...The Sweetest Kind of Tea** is a whimsical tribute to the song’s accompanying dance, “The Teapot Tip.” Mrs. Stout wears a darling teapot costume with a lid tied to her head with a ribbon and cheerfully gives her best teapot impression with one arm at her hip as a handle and the other arm raised like a spout. Lil’ Steamy joins the fun dressed as a matching teacup.

This oversized 10” Bearstone item is limited to 500 pieces.

NOTE TO EDITORS: High-resolution digital images are available from Enesco.