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**The Greenwich Arts Council Plays Host
To The Construction of Tibetan Sand Mandala
Greenwich Arts Center
299 Greenwich Avenue
July 6 Through July 9**

On Tuesday morning, July 6, the Greenwich Arts Council will play host to a group of 10 Tibetan monks from the Drepung Gomang Monastery in Southern India. During their stay in the area, the monks will be creating a sand mandala, or sand painting, in the second floor meeting room of the Arts Center. The sand mandala is an ancient Tibetan art form of unbelievable delicacy using colored sands to create intricate patterns and shapes. The mandala will be built over a four-day period and culminate with the deconstruction of the design and disbursement of the sand, symbolizing the impermanence of all that exists. The closing ceremony is scheduled for Friday, July 9, at approximately 3pm and will include a procession down Greenwich Avenue to the waterfront at Roger Sherman Baldwin Park where the remaining sand will be poured into the Sound.

The building of a sand mandala is a slow, deliberate and contemplative process. The general public is invited to sit and watch the monks as they work. The monks have also scheduled some smaller events -prayers, discussions, and blessings in private homes, as well as cultural performances featuring Tibetan dancing, costumes and music at Wainwright House in Rye, NY. A full schedule of all related events will be made available at the Greenwich Arts Council office and at Wainwright House. Greenwich resident Diane Terry has sponsored the visit of the monks and will act as host for their visit. For more information call the Arts Council office at 622-3998, or Diane Terry at 869-4522.

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