## NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART NEWS RELEASE

SIXTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • 737-4215 extension 224

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GALLERY TOURS INTERPRETED FOR DEAF THURSDAYS AND SATURDAYS

WASHINGTON, D. C. January 17, 1980. Beginning Thursday, January 17, the National Gallery of Art, with the cooperation of Gallaudet College, will offer sign-language interpretation of public tours and Painting of the Week talks each Thursday and Saturday.

On those days, the Gallery's staff lecturers will be accompanied by students in Gallaudet's Department of Sign Communication who are working toward an Associate of Arts Degree in Interpreting. The general tours, which last approximately 50 minutes, are <u>Introduction</u> <u>to the West Building's Collection</u>, which begins in the West Building Rotunda, and <u>Introduction to the East Building's Collection</u>, which commences in the East Building's ground floor lobby. One of these tours is offered at 11 a.m., the other at 3 p.m. A fifty-minute <u>Tour of the Week</u> devoted to a specific topic or special exhibition begins at 1 p.m. <u>The Painting of the Week</u> talks, approximately 15 minutes long, are offered at 12 noon and 2 p.m. The starting points for the Tour of the Week and the Painting of the Week vary.

(more)

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Details of time, location and topic are announced in the Gallery's Calendar of Events and at the art information desks in the East and West Buildings. These tours and talks, as well as the Calendar of Events, are part of the educational program offered free of charge by the National Gallery. The monthly Calendar of Events is available upon request.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director (Information Officer) or Mary Dyer, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565, area code 202, 737-4215, ext. 511.