Curator’s Choice: De Colores
Featuring Seven Latinx Artists

Y por eso los grandes amores de muchos colores me gustan a mi. (And because of this, the greatest loves of many colors, are what I like.) From “De Colores,” Mexican folksong.

De Colores, opening on April 10, presents an exceptional opportunity to view the work of seven outstanding Latinx artists. Guest curated by artist Analee Fuentes, the exhibit features the artwork of Veronica Arqui’evich Guzman, Marina Hajek, Hector H. Hernandez, William Hernandez, Hampton Rodriguez, Esteban Caracho Steffensen, and Suzanne Tellez. The richness of each artist’s cultural heritage is manifest in paintings, prints, mixed media work, and ceramics, reflecting different temperaments, interests, and specializations. Subjects such as ceremony, ritual, cross-cultural mythology, iconography, childhood memories, border politics, and immigration are viewed through a multifaceted lens.

The diversity of approach and subject matter is a striking characteristic of the artwork of the featured artists in “De Colores.” Portland-based William Hernandez, who was originally trained as a painter at Lima’s Escuela Nacional de Bellas Artes, paints surreal narratives infused with both whimsy and melancholy. He considers his artwork to be a “bridge spanning his past traditions and memories to his life today as an artist, family man, and Peruvian living in the Pacific Northwest.” Among the pieces exhibited by Eugene artist Marina Hajek are her poignant cast paper masks. On each mask is mounted a letter to the people of the U.S. from an immigrant, giving a physicality to the voices of immigrants. Painter and collage artist Hampton Rodriguez, originally from the Dominican Republic and trained in Spain, says that he became a very different artist after moving to Portland. In his work he focusses on the idiosyncratic culture of Portland’s neighborhoods and the cadences of everyday life there.

Curator Analee Fuentes chose “De Colores” (Made Of Colors”) as the title of the exhibit because it brings together different aspects of the work exhibited. First, much of the artwork emphasizes color as a dominant design element. “De Colores” is also the title of a popular Mexican folksong celebrating

Continued on Page Two
Exhibition Schedule

Through March 20

despondent
Work by Judith Hochman, Kumja Lee, M.V. Moran, Alanna Risse, Rhonda Vanover, and Amanda Martin Wilcox

Saturday, March 28
Jello Obsession: 32nd Annual Jello Art Show
Entertainment by the Radar Angels
One day only, 5 – 8 pm

April 10 – May 8
Curator’s Choice: De Colores: Seven Latinx Artists
Curated by Analee Fuentes
Reception: Friday, April 10, 6 – 8 pm

May 22 – June 19
Sarah Sedwick: Still Life & Figure
Reception: Friday, May 22, 6 – 8 pm
Title Sponsors: Nancy Pobanz & David Wade

Members Art Gallery & Gift Shop
Ongoing: Work by Art Center members and Club Mud ceramicists, changes quarterly

Gallery Hours: M-F, 10 am to 5:30 pm, and Saturday, noon to 4:00 pm (when exhibits are on display)

Currently On View
On view through March 20 is “despondent,” a group show of six artists: Judith Hochman, Kumja Lee, M.V. Moran, Alanna Risse, Rhonda Vanover, and Amanda Martin Wilcox. Each artist approaches the subject of melancholy from different perspectives, expressing their particular visions in fiber installations, mixed media, archival inkjet prints, and large canvases.

MKAC Artists at the Airport
The Gallery at the Airport showcases “Oregon Coast,” an exhibit of the work of 17 selected Art Center member artists through April 21. The participating artists, who each display one piece depicting the diverse beauty of the Oregon Coast, are Sarkis Antikajian, Kate Bollons, Barbara Counsil, Linda Devenow, Analee Fuentes, Kathy Heerema, Zoe LeCompte, Patti McNutt, Catherine Meyer, Renee Nelson, Sandi T. O’Brien, Walt O’Brien, Lynn Pederson, John Pelletier, Charles Search, Mike Van, and Jordan K. Walker.

Calls to Artists
Applications/prospectuses for the following are available at www.mkartcenter.org:

2021 – 2022 Exhibits Schedule: Local, regional, and national artists (individuals and groups) working in 2- and 3-dimensional media, as well as installation art, are invited to apply for the next biennial (2021 – 2022) of exhibits at the Art Center. Apply by mail or on CaFÉ at www.callforentry.org. Deadline: Friday, April 10.

Día de los Muertos Exhibit (October 9 – November 2): The Art Center seeks two and three-dimensional artwork related to the theme of the Mexican Day of the Dead. Postmark deadline: Friday, August 7.

Continued from Page One
the many colors of creation. And the participating artists are “people of color.” It is particularly relevant today at a time of national divisiveness to recognize the cultural significance of the art of Latinx communities. Analee expresses her hope for the exhibit in this way: “Color is defined by Webster’s as a ‘property of light.’ My hope is that the art in this exhibit will shine through the darkness of our divisions and unite us into the light as Americans.”

2020 Teen Art Show Title Sponsor —
The Art Center is excited to announce that the Susi Larsen & Cameron Serbu Memorial Scholarship Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation is the Title Sponsor of the 21st annual “Fast Forward: The Mayor’s Teen Art Show,” September 4 – 25, 2020.

The Susi Larsen Memorial Fund was established in 1997 by the Larsen Family to honor daughter Susan (Susi) Lynn Larsen (1961-1996), a talented artist whose life reflected creativity and an abiding interest in nurturing talent in children. In 2015 the fund was renamed the Susi Larsen & Cameron Serbu Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of Susi’s stepbrother, Cameron Serbu. Since its inception 23 years ago, the fund has provided thousands of dollars in scholarships to youth and young adults, ensuring that the arts are available to all young aspiring artists regardless of means.

— Teen Art Show Call to Artists —


DONATE
To support the Susi Larsen & Cameron Serbu Memorial Scholarship Fund
Please visit www.mkartcenter.org or mail your donation to the Maude Kerns Art Center
Attn: Larsen/Serbu Scholarship Fund.

— Family Fun Day Workshops —

Do you want to share an art experience with the whole family? Now is your chance! Mark your calendars for three Saturdays this spring:

March 21, from 1 - 4 pm: Learn all about making jello art in a Jello Workshop led by Jello Queen Diane McWhorter. Create your own jello artwork to display or wear at the Jello Art Show on Saturday, March 28. The cost is $10 per participant (materials included).

May 2 and June 13, from 1 - 3 pm: Pair up with a friend or family member to make a ceramic slab mug by hand and decorate it with different glazes and textures. The cost is $20 per registration for two participants.

Spring Classes & Workshops

Open Studios in figure painting and drawing begin the week of April 6, while classes for adults in a wide variety of media start the week of April 13. Art classes for youth and young adults begin the week of April 20. This spring term an Intensive Workshop taught by Sarah Sedwick, “Oil Painting: Still Life and Portrait,” is offered May 26 – 29, from 9:30 am – 4:30 pm. You may register online at www.mkartcenter.org.

Scholarships for classes, workshops, and camps are available for adults, young adults, and youth. See the scholarship application online for the following scholarship funds: Susi Larsen & Cameron Serbu Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Madeleine Christenson Scholarship Fund.

Spring Forward!

Reserve a place in the Art Center’s Spring Break Art Camp (ages 6 – 10) or Young Adult Workshop (ages 11 – 16) the week of March 23 – 27. The full-day art camp, “Nature Explorers,” encourages students to take a look at nature as a place to find inspiration for their 2D and 3D mixed media creations made from natural and recycled materials. “In the Style of…,” a half-day workshop for young adults, offers students the opportunity to learn about sculpture, painting, and collage through the practices of some of the world’s most well-known artists. See www.mkartcenter.org for more information or email education@mkartcenter.org.
--- Calling All ATV Volunteers ---

Support your local Art Center by volunteering at the Art and the Vineyard Festival. Proceeds from the festival fund the Art Center’s year-round Exhibits and Education programs.

Volunteer with a friend for any of the following: Pre-Event Set Up, Post-Event Take Down, Garden Set Up & Sales, Information & Membership Booth, Maude Kerns Art Center Booth, Artists’ Marketplace Booth Sitting, Volunteer Booth, Artist Hospitality, Youth Art Arena, Food Court, Sanitation & Recycling, or Site Crew. All volunteers receive both free admission to the festival and a festival t-shirt.

For more information, see www.artandthevineyard.org or call the Art Center at 541-345-1571.

--- Art and the Vineyard 2020 ---

Mark your calendars for the 37th annual Art and the Vineyard Festival at Alto Baker Park Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, July 3 – 5. On July 4, enjoy the fireworks beginning at dusk.

Applications for the following are available online at www.artandthevineyard.org or www.mkartcenter.org:

- **Artists’ Marketplace**: To be considered for the Marketplace, submit images of two- and three-dimensional work for jurying. The Artists’ Marketplace application is also available online. Deadline: **Friday, March 27**.

- **Art For Your Garden**: Artists interested in exhibiting their work in Art For Your Garden are invited to submit four digital images of representative artworks appropriate for outdoor display and use. Deadline: **Friday, April 10**.

- **Installation Art**: Maude Kerns Art Center will host up to four art installations at this year’s Art and the Vineyard Festival. A $200 stipend per accepted artist/artist team is offered. Deadline for submissions: **Friday, May 1, by midnight**.

--- Attention Plein Air Painters! ---

Artists are invited to paint on site at the 2020 Art and the Vineyard Festival “Plein Air Paint-Out.” Canvases are provided. Interested artists should RSVP by June 1 by emailing barbara@mkartcenter.org.
Thank You!

Office Assistants: Ann Bumb Hamilton, Margaret Leutzinger, Heather Mather, and Lisa Schau

Website/Sponsorship: Ben Davis

Open Studio Coordinators: Sarkis Antikajian, Marsha Wells Shankman, and Karen Washburn

Opening Receptions: Dana Burall, Michael Heffernan, Margaret Leutzinger, Heather Mather, Lisa Schau, and Daisy Schrock

MKAC at the Asian Celebration: Ben Birkey, Lily Frazee, Michael Heffernan, Krista Raasch, and Sara Spahn

Classroom Assistant: Ben Birkey

Exhibits Assistant: Ann Bumb Hamilton and Tina Schrager

Gallery Greeters: Sandy Crowley, Linda Devenow, Sue Gottschalk, Sara Hammer, Margaret Leutzinger, Richard Weaver, and Rebecca Wolle

Bulk Mailing Crew: Ben Birkey, Ann Bumb Hamilton, and Margaret Leutzinger

Newsletter Layout: Crystal Impressions Graphic Design

Photographer: Ben Davis

Landscaping: Justin Ernst - The Modern Lawn, David Wade, and Karen Washburn

Color Printing of Newsletter: QSL Print

Wine Sponsor: Territorial Vineyards & Wine Company

Donations:
Space heater: Jim Kiplinger
Art books: Candy Bromitt
Coffee maker: Jean Canty

Board News

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to David Wade, who is stepping down as Board Chair. David, who remains on the Board, is replaced as chair by Ann Bumb Hamilton. We welcome Ann as well as new Board member Jeanne Maasch, a retired Art Director of University Communications at the University of Oregon. And, finally, we thank former Board members Slavka Eberhart-Garah and Lloyd Madden for their years of valuable service.

Letter from the Director

2019 was another exciting year for the Art Center, as we continued to grow our programs, adding new types of classes, exhibits, studio space, and community outreach. A big thank you to the Art Center’s staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers for their hard work and dedication.

We had an outstanding Winter Fundraiser, raising just under $30,000 dollars. It’s rewarding to see that 37% of 2019 donations are from new donors or donors who have lapsed and are returning. Congratulations to the Art Center’s Fundraising Steering Committee for another successful campaign.

Our Education program increased by 39% compared to 2018. This is attributed to not only a significant increase in the number and types of classes offered, but also to the number of students attending each class, where registration often reached the maximum.

As we look to 2020 I am excited about expanding our class offerings in darkroom photography and printmaking, and introducing limited engagement Intensive Workshops from prominent artists, such as our upcoming Oil Painting workshop with painter Sarah Sedwick in May.

I would like to say a special thank you to David Wade for his 15 years as President of our Board of Directors. His guidance and passion for the Art Center over the years is essential to the Art Center’s continued success. Thank you so much David! I would also like to welcome our new Board President Ann Hamilton and look forward to her dynamic leadership.

Thank you for your membership and I hope to see you at the Art Center this spring!

Michael Fisher, Executive Director
— Jello Art Show: Jello Obsession —

Are you fixated, distracted, or just plain preoccupied? Put down that newspaper, turn off your TV, silence that cellphone, and feed your Jello Obsession at this year’s Jello Art Show, **Saturday, March 28, from 5 – 8 pm**. Enjoy an exhibit of jello artworks, a Tacky Food Buffet, and entertainment by the Radar Angels.

**Jello Artists** are invited to bring their jello creations to the Art Center between 3:00 and 4:30 pm on the day of the show. There is a $3 entry fee for each jello piece submitted. Contributions to the Tacky Food Buffet are also welcome.