

Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative

A not-for-profit organization and land trust

Working across state boundaries to enhance Wolf Lake

October 9, 2017

12th Greening of the Arts Show
Begins Oct. 20 at CCSJ

Contact: Michael Boos 219 933-7149 or 312 220-0120

Immediate Release

The 12th annual Greening of the Arts Tour, Reception and Show will feature nine local artists when it opens at 6:30 p.m. Friday, October 20 at the Bernard Gallery, Calumet College of St. Joseph (CCSJ), 2400 New York Avenue, Whiting.

Sponsored by the Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI) and CCSJ, the show will continue through December 8.

As in the past, Greening of the Arts show will feature artists who use recycled products or who focus on nature and the environment. Works will include paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs.

This year's featured artists include Marsha Browne of Chesterton, sculpture; Tamara Browne of Washington D.C., photography; Betty Delinck of Hammond, painting; Pat Hansen of South Holland, painting; Rebecca Moss of Oak Lawn, photography; Tom Mullins of Whiting, photography; Suzy Vance of Beverly Shores, fiber; Maria Villarreal of Chicago, mask-making and papier-mache; and Roman Villarreal of Chicago, sculpture.

Participating in the student competition will be entries from CCSJ.

The art show will open at 6:30 p.m. with wine and cheese reception and music by Bryan Piroosko. Scheduled at 7 p.m. is an artists' forum with opening remarks by Professor Walter Skiba,, associate professor of arts and humanities at CCSJ.

The program begins at 7:30 p.m. with acknowledgment of volunteers and donors in 2017.

Paul Somers, gallery curator, speaks at 8 p.m. on the *Nexus of Art and Nature*. Opening day ends at 9 p.m..

A tour of local art galleries will be held one week prior, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, October 14 at CCSJ's Bernard Gallery. The Greening of the Arts Tour, Reception and Show is funded in part by the Legacy Foundation of Lake County.

More information is available by calling AWLI at 219 933-7149 or 312 220-0120.

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Note to Editors. Below is list of artists with additional information:

Marsha Elise Browne of Chesterton, IN

A retired art teacher at Hammond High School, Browne paints nature from landscapes to closeups of flowers and plants that dot the shorelines of Lake Michigan. She also works on recycled sculpture installations.

Browne served as assistant director of Curriculum for the School of the Art Institute from 1987 to 1991 and has worked in various teaching capacities at Crown Point, Hammond and Gary. This year she teaches classes for Porter County Parks and Dunes Learning Center. She is an art consultant and visual arts instructor for South Shore Arts in Crown Point, Indiana.

A native of Gary, she earned a B.A. degree in Fine Arts from Indiana University Northwest and earned an Art Education Certificate from the School of the Art Institute.

Tamara Browne of Washington, D.C. and Chesterton, IN

Browne's work is reflective of art and nature in natural environments along the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

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and Mid Atlantic Region of the United States. The balance of economic development and nature is a constant battle that forces the public to adopt policies that jeopardize future generations. Through her photography, she sends this message.

She continues to exhibit work at public galleries and university venues.

Browne is a native of Gary, Indiana and a graduate of Ripon College in Ripon, Wisconsin. She serves as director of Government Affairs at a Washington D.C. international trade law and lobby firm.

She is past president of Big Brothers Big Sisters in the Washington D.C. area.

Betty Delinck of Hammond, IN

Delinck works in oils and watercolors. She taught art at CCSJ as its Artist-In-Residence.

"Since I grew up next to Wolf Lake and still live there, I love to try to capture the beauty of a scene or the essence of an animal," she says.

Delinck received a B.A. degree from Calumet College of St. Joseph in Whiting, and an M.A. degree from Governors State in Illinois.

Pat Hansen of South Holland, IL

At the show, she will be exhibiting two oil paintings. Hansen has dedicated more than 40 years to creating realistic landscapes, still life, florals and animal portraits. She is a former director of a Montessori classroom and trained child care workers at Purdue University Calumet. Hansen also taught art at all grade levels in the East Chicago public schools.

Past president of Illiana Artists, she has won numerous awards during her career and her work is in corporate and private collections.

Rebecca Moss of Oak Lawn, IL

Moss is a naturalist with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. She is a former AWLI director.

Tom Mullins, of Whiting, IN

Suzy Vance of Beverly Shores, IN

Vance uses fiber from animals and other materials to create images. She began selling her fiber paintings last year through her life coaching company, Suzy Vance, LLC. Before beginning her business of coaching people through personal transitions and career choices, she spent more than a decade practicing law after she graduated from DePaul University College of Law in 1975. She works with fiber as a medium. "Fiber is alive...it's alive even after it's been sheared from or made by any animal. I am fascinated by it, and I've been playing with fiber since my mother taught me to knit at the age of 12. Until recently, as a closet artist, I've played with knitting, weaving, spinning, and felting".

Artist's Statement: "Today I find I am ".coming home"...to myself...here...now...as I was as a child. I've given myself permission not to "fix" me or others. In choosing to live "ten seconds at a time," I find myself more curious about everything around me. I am fascinated by the animals inhabiting this Earth, including people and all their creative capacities, I relish the exploration of what animals and the rest of the natural environment (the trees, flowers, birds and bees...) contribute to us. and how our physical surroundings, including the spaces we live in, nurture our lives, imagination, growth, and expression.

"My "home" is the Earth. It is the essence of what is creative in life. In my fiber work I go to the source of how the Earth continuously fills me with wonder, joy, and possibility... especially the animals and the fiber they provide. The actual process of working with fiber is my way of going home and embracing my journey from beginning to end."

Maria Villarreal of Chicago, IL

She has served as a resident artist at Urban Gateways, one of two lead artists at the National Museum of Mexican Art, a muralist/mosaic artist at the Chicago Public Art Group, and lead artist at Gallery 37.

Villarreal also has been affiliated with the Field Museum's Park Voyagers, Chicago Park District and Chicago's Children's Museum. She is best know for her quilt-making, mask-making and papier-mache projects.

Roman Villarreal of Chicago, IL

A former steel worker and founder of Hammond's Warehouse Studio and co-founder of Under the Bridge gallery in Chicago, Villarreal sculpts multi-figured expressions of the human experience. He places an emphasis on the experiences of the Mexican-American community and people of color.

He recently created an 11-foot bronze statue erected at Steelworkers Park in South Chicago.

He has exhibited nationally and internationally. One of his stone sculptures is part of the National Museum of Mexican Art collections. Other works are among the collections of the Field Museum.