

Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative

A not-for-profit organization and land trust

Working across state boundaries to enhance Wolf Lake

October 14, 2015

11 artists to exhibit
At 10th Greening of the Arts Show

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

Immediate Release

The 10th annual Greening of the Arts Reception and Show will feature 11 local artists when it opens at noon Friday, October 23, 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 12.

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 Larry Brechner of Munster, photography; Marsha Browne of Chesterton, sculpture; Tamara Browne of Washington D.C., photography; Betty Delinck of Hammond, painting; Mary Ann Gradisher of Hammond, painting; Pat Hansen of South Holland, painting; Larry Mickow of Highland, photography; Martin Martinez of Chicago, photography; Rebecca Moss of Oak Lawn, photography; Paul Orich of Lansing, sculpture; and Katherine Van Drie of Valparaiso, sculpture.

The art show will open at noon with opening remarks by Dr. Walter Skiba. Scheduled at 1 p.m. is an artists' forum.

A wine and cheese reception begins at 5:30 p.m. It will include a brief musical demonstration by Br. Benjamin Basile, C.P.P.S., associate professor of mathematics at Calumet College of St. Joseph. He will be performing on a recently restored 1898 Kimball pipe organ which is housed in the Bernard Gallery.

The program begins at 6 p.m. with acknowledgment of volunteers and donors in 2015.

Sculptor Roman Villarreal of Chicago will speak at 7 p.m. on the *Nexus of Art and Nature*.

A tour of local art galleries and studios begins the prior weekend at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, October 17 at CCSJ's Bernard Gallery.

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

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List of artists with additional information:

Larry Brechner of Munster, IN

A fine art photographer, Brechner is the theatre director at Munster High School.

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

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Browne's work is reflective of art and nature in natural environments along the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore 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 currently teaches art at Calumet College and is their 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.

Mary Ann Gradisher of Hammond, IN

Gradisher uses recycled paper products and other materials to create her art work.

Pat Hansen of South Holland

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.

Martin Martinez of Chicago, IL

Martinez is curator of the Bernard Gallery at CCSJ where he teaches photography and art history. His most recent show was *50 and Over* held this summer.

Larry Mickow of Highland, IN

An artist/photographer, Mickow has won awards in past exhibits.

Rebecca Moss of Oak Lawn, IL

Moss is a naturalist with the Sand Ridge Nature Center managed by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County. She is a former AWLI director.

Paul Orich of Lansing, IL

A retired art teacher, Orich works with corrugated cardboard as his medium.

Katherine Van Drie of Valparaiso, IN

Katherine Van Drie is a multi-media visual artist whose current conceptual works explore the revelatory nature of material consumption. Her current one-person exhibit, *Use. Define. Disclose.*, at Calumet College's Bernard Gallery closes Oct. 22.

Roman Villarreal of Chicago, IL

A former steel worker and founder of Hammond's Warehouse Studio, 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 for Steelworkers Park in South Chicago. He currently is working on a 11-foot dragon head to be displayed in Chicago's Chinatown.

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

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