GRANTS PASS MUSEUM OF ART Since 1979

ART MATTERS

Vol 7 2014, Issue 4

A publication of Grants Pass Museum of Art

GPMA Mission: To enrich lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit.

2015 Exhibition Schedule

Jan 13 - Feb 13

"Black, White, & the Blues"

An exhibit of artworks to be auctioned at the annual Black, White & the Blues art auction and dance party.

Feb 18 - Mar 27

"Eiko Jones"

Jones' photographs have been featured in National Geographic magazine. Specializing in dramatic and surreal underwater photography, his work showcases unique views of the natural world through constant awareness of lighting and angles.

Apr 3 - May 29

"Brenda Mallory"

From Portland, Oregon, Brenda Mallory's mixed media sculptures have been featured in national magazines and installed in the Portland International Airport. Waxed cloth is shaped into organic forms often held together with steel nuts and bolts. The architectonic structure of her work is visually informed by windswept landscapes and explores the ethical quandaries of agri-business, biology and technology.

Jun 3 - Jul 31

"Burchard & Van Fleet"

These two Rogue Valley artists create contemporary works in wood. Christian Burchard's freestanding sculptural objects and vessel oriented forms, influenced by the natural world, are widely exhibited throughout the USA. Peter Van Fleet refers to his abstract wall works of acrylic on wood panel as expressions of this exciting time in our culture.

Aug 4 - Sep 25

Leni Wiener - "Benched"

Stories presented in representational fabric collages. She is inspired by people around her, drawn by the body language that speaks volumes.

Sep 29 - Nov 13

"Figurative Invitational"

Two- and three-dimensional figurative art works by 16 artists from the Northwest.

Nov 19 - Dec 17

"Annual Membership Exhibition"

A non-juried exhibition of works by Museum members that is enjoyed by the entire community.

President's Corner

Santa Lives

by Susan Eileen Burnes

It's that time of year again! Here we are in the middle of the exciting holiday season, and perhaps you are busy making your home festive, planning feasts and gift exchanges. The Museum and Gallery One are looking festive now as well, so be sure to see the Annual Membership Exhibit upstairs and shop at Gallery One for unique gifts of art.

As a non-profit independent museum, GPMA is not supported by any tax revenue but relies on membership fees, donors, sponsors, grant funding, fundraising events and of course, Santa Claus. It requires a great deal of funds to keep our doors open and programs running with employees to pay, insurance and utilities, exhibition expenses, taxes and mortgage. This year Santa arrived at GPMA a couple months before Christmas with a gift that will help the Museum for many years to come. As the Museum has been conscientiously paying down its mortgage, it currently stands at approximately $50,000. The concept of refinancing was researched in 2013; however, a rate lower than the current 7.7% was not available. In October of this year, a great friend of Grants Pass Museum of Art offered to consolidate the mortgage loan, two other existing small loans and the Museum's credit card balance into one loan to be repaid at the rate of 4.5% in ten years, reducing the monthly payments for those four debts from approximately $3,000 to $600. This provides a tremendous relief on the strain of our monthly fiscal obligations.

What an incredibly generous and foresighted gift for the continued well-being of this Museum. I would like to express a deeply felt gratitude to Santa from all the members of GPMA and the community we serve. May everyone have peaceful, prosperous holidays and a new year filled with creative adventures. ♦

Director's Reflections

by Chris Pondelick

A new year is around the corner, and there are many things planned for 2015 at the Museum. As you can see from the cover of this newsletter, there is an exciting lineup of exhibits scheduled. I personally have seen the work of Brenda Mallory at the Portland Airport and cannot wait to see her work here.

Get your dancing shoes ready for the annual Black, White & the Blues. The event will be held again at Wheeler Toyota on February 21st. The BWB committee has been busy organizing this fun and important event since September and is happy to announce that LoveBite will be performing, Bob Lieberman will be our MC, and Cris Caldwell will be at the auction helm. Wonderful items for the live auction and silent auction are being collected, and from what I have seen so far, you won't want to miss this event! Tickets will be available in January.

Other fundraising events to look forward to are the Golf for Art Tournament in May and the Art in the Garden Tour in June. It would be nice to have another event for fundraising in the fall, so if you have any ideas and time to donate, we would love to hear from you.

It is never too early to give attention to our education programs. In partnership with Club Northwest, children's art classes will be taught at the KidZone two Saturdays a month from January through April. See the class schedule on the calendar on the back of this newsletter and the write up on page 6. Class fees remain at $10 per student or $8 per child for a family.

The Museum's Children's Summer Workshops will be held from June through the end of August. In 2014 over 100 children participated in our children's classes, thanks to our incredible instructors and their assistants.

With the year coming to an end I would like to thank all of you who give so much to the Museum--our many donors, the Board of Directors, members, volunteers and all of you who help the Museum thrive in our community. I am so proud of the accomplishments in 2014 and look forward to 2015. Happy New Year, and many blessings to you and your family. ♦

High School Art Teacher Sparks Creativity in Young Artists

By Randy Johnson

Room 300 at Grants Pass High School is flooded with natural light and is filled with large, vibrant paintings of rock musicians. The canvases are the work of art teacher and assistant wrestling coach, Joshua Morton, whose passions are capturing the essence of musical performances and sparking the creativity of his students.

One student who caught that spark is senior Taylor Chapman. Last year she captured the Junior Artist of the Year award at GPHS. I found her in the studio working on a large drawing with Pentalic pencils and a blending stick.

Taylor said, "I've been drawing since I was four. My grandma would babysit me and that's what we'd do: draw." She loves making smooth blends, using pencils as soft as 8B to make dense shadows and an eraser to create contrasting highlights in the skin tones of her figures. On her drawing board sits a smart phone that displays a picture of her boyfriend, Aaron. It's a reference shot for the drawing titled Talking to the Moon after Bruno Mars' pop ballad.

Until recently Taylor's work was straightforward portraiture, including drawings of actors like Zackary John Quinto and Bryan Cranston. "I'm really interested in faces; I think there's beauty in everyone," she said. The dreamlike Talking to the Moon is an exciting departure for her: it's got a narrative quality and real emotional content. The female figure, based on actress Hayden Panettiere, is longing for a boy who seems distant and unsure of his feelings. "He [Morton] inspired me to use my imagination; I'm blending these two portraits together to do something really different," she said.

Taylor plans to go to SOU to study both art and theater. This year she was in the Rogue Music Theater's Young Frankenstein, and she just landed a lead in GPHS's upcoming Hairspray. I asked her how a reserved, demure young woman can be an actress. She answered, "Being someone else is amazing. You forget yourself and are enveloped in someone else. You can just go for it."

Going for it is exactly what Josh Morton teaches his students. Leading and creating by example, he works on his own giant canvases in the center of the studio. His method is to give students good drawing skills and to encourage them to follow their own passion. He also tells them "Hard work is the reality that leads to the illusion of talent." He knows the value of hard work. While earning his BS in art from SOU in 1999, he won the NAIA wrestling championship in the 158-lb weight class.

When Morton was floundering after high school, he said that music and art turned his life around. Now, as an art activist, he has created the One Sweet World Fund, a scholarship for GPHS students who are in both art and band and have plans to major in art or music in college. Funded by 10% of sales of his prints and original paintings signed by celebrity musicians, he has already raised $4,000. His goal is to raise $100,000 for art-minded students by the time he retires. ♦

GPMA 2014 in Pictures

Art in the Garden

Enjoying the art at the special Members Reception for "Faces"

Black, White & the Blues

Golf for Art

Children's Art Class

Exhibition crew prepares to hang High School student art

Volunteers enjoying appreciation lunch

Two grants allow Museum to redo building electrical systems

Children's Photography Class

Glass Forge provides a Volunteer outing

Kids' Winter Classes

Fun adventures are scheduled during the Kids' Winter Classes at KidZone in Club Northwest, from mask-making and rock art to themed art for Valentine's Day and Easter. Classes are scheduled for two Saturdays each month from January through April. We will have more information about the classes as soon as we get instructor confirmation. Call KidZone (541-955-2582) to register your child for classes. Cost is $10 per child or $8 per child for families with multiple children. All children are welcome. You do not need to be a member of Club Northwest. Each class will meet from 10 a.m. to noon on these dates:

January 10 & 24 **February 7 & 21**
March 14 & 28 **April 11 & 25**

Call the Museum at (541) 479-3290 during open hours for more information. ♦

GALLERY ONE AT THE MUSEUM

For your holiday shopping the Gallery will be open on the first four Mondays in December. The theme of "Winter Solstice" will be apparent throughout the Gallery which offers a great variety of gift ideas. One can choose from greeting cards, jewelry, and other handcrafted items of pottery, glass, and wood, as well as sculptures, mixed-media work, photographs, and paintings created by many Rogue Valley fine artists.

In January there will not be a First Friday event. In February the Gallery will have a group theme of "Thump, Thump, Thump, Thump". Check out what that means on First Friday, February 6.

Gallery One is located below the Museum. It provides a venue for artists in our community to exhibit and sell their art. ♦

Thank You

Thank you to our donors and sponsors. Many heartfelt thanks go out to the donors who helped the Museum in 2014. Without this support the Museum could not exist. Many projects have been completed and future ones will happen because of the generosity of these special folks.

During 2014 we were awarded the following support:

- **Rewiring our building electrical system**
  Carpenter Foundation
  Four Way Community Foundation
- **Sponsor of "Faces" Exhibit**
  Josephine County Cultural Coalition
- **Sponsor of "Manimal Kingdom" Exhibit**
  Ed Morey, Redwood Nursery
- **Matching Funds Kick-off**
  Jennifer Murphy Trust
- **Donation of Bearinator Motorcycle**
  Evergreen Federal Bank

Thanks to all the sponsors of and contributors to the Museum's important fundraising events: Black, White & the Blues, Golf for Art, and Art in the Garden Tour. A very special thank you to all of you who donate to the Museum, renew your memberships, and volunteer your time. ♦

Matching Funds Drive

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Matching Funds Drive so far. We have had lots of response, and it is so appreciated! A special thank you goes out to Jennifer Murphy for her generous donation from her family's trust, making it possible to have the Matching Funds event this year. For every dollar you donate to the Matching Funds Drive the Museum will receive a matching dollar. If you haven't already donated, you have until December 31st to get a tax break on your 2014 taxes. You'll know you are helping this gem survive in our community! ♦

Missing Newsletter?

Did you expect to find a September Art Matters in your mailbox three months ago and it never showed up? Well, your newsletter team begs your forgiveness. We didn't mail one out in September.

But we did write one, and publish it. However, we did not publish it on paper. Your museum found itself in a pinch and we did not have the cash on hand to pay for the printing and the mailing. But we did publish it on the web. In fact, we put all the newsletters on our website, just in case you forget where you put your copy. If you look at the Museum website, navigate to [Museum][Newsletters] you will find a list of at least the last two years of them. Alternately you can type in www.gpmuseum.com/newsletter.html and get to the same place.

We do really intend to actually print newsletters, like this one, in the future. But, if you haven't noticed, the world is going digital, and we might be pinched again sometime in the future. So, if you make sure we have your correct email address, we can warn you to look first on the web site if we get in a hole again. We really do want to keep in contact with you with news of your museum.♦

Welcome Kate

If you, by chance, have already looked at the last page of this newsletter, you will have noticed that GPMA has a new director on the board: Kate Huckert. Kate, her husband and two boys are relative newcomers to the Grants Pass area, having come from a small community in Southwest Alaska. She says she has had to get used to living in our big town.

Kate received her Bachelor's Degree in Kinesiology. Next she earned a Master's Degree and then her Doctorate in Physical Therapy. She is now a full-time physical therapist here in Grants Pass.

Kate is also a skilled potter and fine artist and enjoys playing with clay in her spare time. She was president of the Kuskokwim Art Guild for two years and is no stranger to volunteer work.

Grants Pass Museum of Art is proud to welcome Kate to Grants Pass and to the Museum as a member of the Board of Directors. ♦

SUNDAY Matinee @ the Library

** FREE to the public **

Snacks will be served. Donations are appreciated. Discussion will follow the movies.

Always Suave: Cary Grant

Sunday, Jan 11, 2015
"GUNGA DIN"
(1939)

Sunday, Jan 25, 2015
"PHILADELPHIA STORY"
(1940)

Sunday, Feb 8, 2015
"ARSENIC AND OLD LACE"
(1957)

Sunday, Feb 22, 2015
"MR. BLANDING BUILDS HIS DREAM HOUSE"
(1948)

Sunday, Mar 8, 2015
"MONKEY BUSINESS"
(1952)

Sunday, Mar 22, 2015
"AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER"
(1944)

Sunday, Apr 12, 2015
"CHARADE"
(1963)

These films will be shown on Sundays beginning at 2 pm at the Josephine Community Library, Ben Bones room.

For more information contact:

Grants Pass Museum of Art:
(541) 479-3290

Josephine County Libraries:
(541) 476-0571

Cynthia:
(541) 476-7665

Visiting the Museum with Your Child

A visit to your museum is a great place to open your child's mind, educate him or her about art and creativity, and stimulate conversation. Before you bring your child to the Museum, however, there are a few things to consider. Be sure to prepare your child ahead of time for what your visit might look like so there will be no surprises. Talk about slow walking around, pausing to look at each piece of art, maybe talking about the art pieces, not touching them, not running, not eating or drinking during the visit, and the need to respect the requests of museum staff.

As you move through the exhibit, you could ask your child to imagine and describe what it might be like to step inside the art. What sights, sounds, smells might be experienced. What the artist had in mind when he or she was making the art.

You might want to play a game with your child. You could play I Spy--looking for shapes, colors, lines, animals, zigzags, etc. You could compare two works of art--discussing how they are the same or how they are different. You could play the Memory Game--looking at a painting for about a minute and then turning around to describe what they've seen. Does everyone remember the same things? You could talk about their favorite and what it is that they like about it. You could sketch with them while you are visiting--remember to bring sketching materials if that's something you want to do.

However you decide to spend your museum time, whatever you do while you're there, stay safe, have fun and be sure to come back again. ♦

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OREGON ARTS COMMISSION

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Grants Pass Museum of Art Mission Statement:

To enrich lives by offering art experiences that stimulate the senses, intrigue the intellect and bring joy to the spirit.

December

12/2	Exhibit: Annual Membership Show thru 12/18
12/4	Volunteers meet 10:30 am
12/5	First Friday 5 pm
12/10	Life Sketching 9 pm
12/12	Poetry 7 pm
12/18	Board Meeting 5:30 pm
12/19	Museum closed for holidays thru 1/12/2015

Gallery One Theme: "Winter Solstice"

January

1/9	Poetry 7 pm
1/10	KidZone Class 10 am
1/11	Free Library Movie: 2 pm
1/13	Exhibit: Black White & the Blues, Live & Silent Auction items thru 2/13
1/22	Board Meeting 5:30 pm
1/24	KidZone Class 10 am
1/25	Free Library Movie: 2 pm

Gallery One Theme: "Thump, Thump, Thump, Thump"

February

2/5	Volunteers meet 10:30 am
2/6	First Friday 5 pm
2/7	KidZone Class 10 am
2/8	Free Library Movie: 2 pm
2/11	Life Sketching 7 pm
2/13	Poetry 7 pm
2/17	Exhibit: Eiko Jones, Underwater Photography thru 3/27
2/19	Board Meeting 5:30 pm
2/21	KidZone Class 10 am
2/21	Black, White & the Blues
2/22	Free Library Movie: 2 pm

Special Thanks To:

- Jennifer Murphy Trust
- Ed Morey: Redwood Nursery
- Ford Family Foundation
- Cliff Bennett: Chet's Garden Center
- Four Way Community Foundation
- Carpenter Foundation
- Josephine County Cultural Coalition
- Don & Carolyn Rice
- Wheeler Toyota

***Art Matters* is a publication of Grants Pass Museum of Art**

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