



CANVAS NEWSLETTER

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Summer 2020



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CURRENTLY ON DISPLAY

MARCH 21, 2020 - JULY 25, 2020

Main Gallery:

Art Festival Acquisitions:
From the Permanent Collection

Mezzanine & Legacy
Galleries:

*Bloom: Celebrating Strands of
Transformation*
Painted Hills Fiber Artists & Desert
Designers



The St. George Art Museum in the beautiful Pioneer Center for the Arts.

Museum Closed: COVID-19 & SGAM

As concern over COVID-19 continues, the St. George Art Museum has closed until May 9. This is a decision that was made by the city of St. George, and as sad as it makes us to close our doors to the public and cancel all events until May 9, the public health of St. George is our priority.

Just as the closure was announced this last Tuesday, we were already working on changing the old exhibits to the new. The city has allowed us to continue the change even though the opening reception that was planned for the next exhibits has been cancelled. Our new curator, Gary Sanders, is quickly gathering resources to develop a virtual

tour that will be viewable online. We will send you updates about the virtual tour and an invitation if and when it is ready.

Other cancellations include our monthly book club for the months of March and April, SmART Saturdays until May 9, and Art Conversations until May 20.

Pages 3 to the end of this newsletter were written in February, before the COVID-19 outbreak took hold of the world. Please enjoy catching up on museum events from Fall and Winter of 2019!

We are forever grateful to you, our members, for supporting the museum. While we are working on options for online content and virtual tours, we hope to get back to normal operations soon. Stay home, stay safe, and stay healthy. ■

The opening reception planned for March 20 is cancelled.

We are sad to say that all other events until May 9 are also cancelled. This includes the Art Festival, which the museum participates in every year. This is a big disappointment to not only the museum, but also the local community.

Soup N' Bowl Success

Thank you for coming to our annual Soup N' Bowl Fundraiser! We had well over 200 guests and an amazing silent auction turnout! For the first time in Soup N' Bowl history we had classic cars on our back patio, paintings as well as ceramic pieces in our silent auction, and two amazing musical performers: the Tuacahn High School A Cappella group and the Red Dirt Girls.

As always, this fundraiser brings

important funds to the museum for purchase that go into our permanent collection. We couldn't do this without you! ■



Twisting Twining Tumbling:

Threads that Touch, Turn, & Free: From the last exhibit

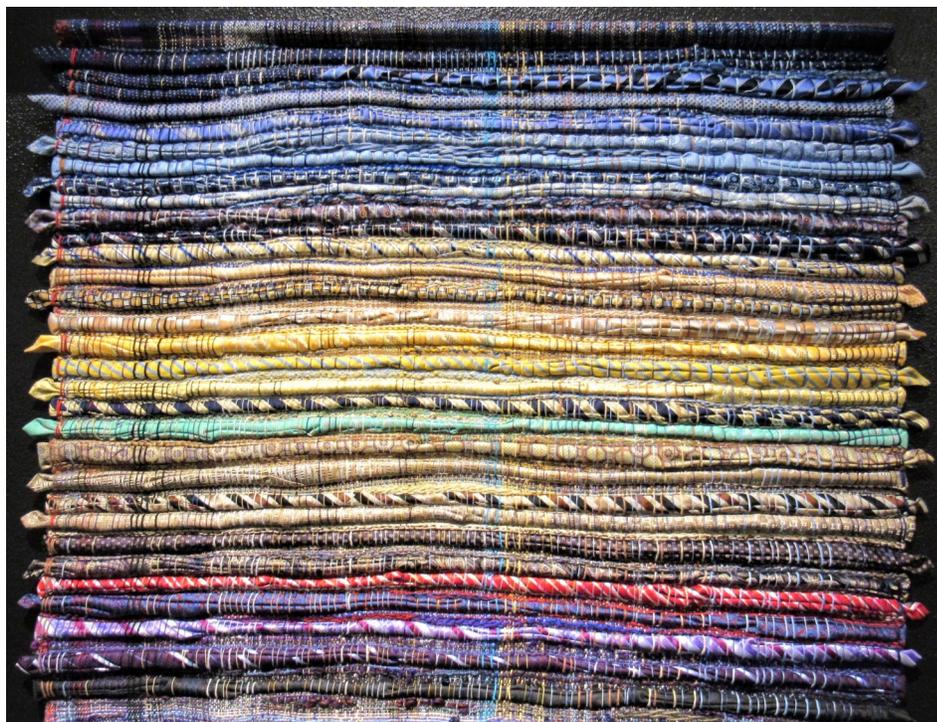
“The feel of fiber/yarn, the texture of materials, the beauty, the creative freedom, the technical details and potentials, the dimension of the woven product, all are satisfying and pleasurable to the eye and the senses. The motions and materials, twisting, twining, tumbling of weaving relax, sooth and free the weaver from many of the stresses of life, a move toward wellness, threads that touch, turn and free.” - Sandra Sandberg, PhD, Artist, Teacher.

With over 30 artists and close to 90 pieces, *Twisting Twining Tumbling* has filled our Mezzanine Gallery to bursting with woven glass, horny toads, branches, rabbit fur, tapestries, rugs, blends, weaves, cottons, handspun wool, and even the looms they were created on. The subjects range from UFOs to keepsakes from the artists' parents and grandparents. The artists, members of St. George Weaving Studio and individuals from the greater South West, are united by their desires to express creativity through the ancient tradition of weaving and spinning. The following are a few words about the art from the artists themselves.

Lynne Greenfield: “At 70, I am just now thinking about learning to draw! In the meantime, I have found it rewarding and fun to take a printed piece of fabric and enhance the printed design using embroidery threads and beads. I take liberty with color and don't feel I have to use the same colors as printed on the fabric. It's been a fun way for me to play with color and texture.”



Lynne Greenleaf - Cactus Patch



Nancy Crowley: “I started weaving about 15 years ago. I lived in New Mexico at the time. I went to the New Mexico State Fair every year and would watch the weavers demonstrate. Each year I said to myself that I wanted to learn how to weave. Finally, one year, I decided I wasn't getting any younger and I joined the local guild and rented a loom. I learned to weave by reading books and help from some guild members. I love the creative process of weaving. I now have a 16-shaft computer dobbie loom, an 8-shaft folding floor loom, an 8-shaft table loom and a 4-shaft table loom. I also have a small loom I use for card weaving. I have successfully completed the Guild of Canadian Weavers Basic and Intermediate weaving tests.”

Kay Barickman: “After retiring as a psychologist and music-thanatologist, I moved here, to Southern Utah and decided to take up weaving. That opened a whole new world! I learned the basics of Free Weaving. Soon after, I met a lovely woman named Katie Mays. She introduced me to tapestry weaving, and a circle of friends developed into a weaving group called the Kayenta Weavers.

“Tres Culebras is the name of these 3 tapestries. Why 3? Because 3 creates a “trinity.” The snake is an image with many

Sandra Sandberg - Missionary Moods

meanings. I used to have a snake phobia. When I moved here and began walking out in the desert, I decided to change my perspective and really make friends with them. They still scare me a little bit but I've learned to stand still, breathe, and watch them with interest. I've seen a gopher snake, a king snake, and a striped whip snake. They were all beautiful!” ■



Kay Barickman - Tres Culebras

Unseen Treasures: From the Permanent Collection

Unseen Treasures allows the audience to delve into our collection, providing a chance to view a selection of pieces not often on display. Throughout the exhibit you will notice a wide variety of styles and media used, with a unifying theme of landscapes. The oldest piece in the show is 'Monolith' by Maynard Dixon, 1909. The most recent piece in the show is 'Geothermal Hot Pots' by Lara Azzura Valenti, 2017. 'Geothermal Hot Pots' is a Cyanotype Monotype Print, which is a combination of two types of printing processes. A Cyanotype Print results in a cyan blue print, often referred to as a blueprint. A Monotype print is made by drawing on glass with a greasy substance then pressed by hand onto a sheet of absorbent paper.

Some artists will be recognizable, some will be new. Here are a few fun facts about some of the artists featured in this exhibit:

Tom Keesee is an adjunct professor of art at the University St. Francis. Before be-

coming a professor, he worked at three different museums as an installation specialist. He is known for his nature scenes and thickly impastoed paintings

Fredrick Dellenbaugh ('The Cedar Tree- Kaibab Canyon') was an explorer



Tom Keesee - Dawn at the Pipe Organ

of the American west and a member of an expedition that discovered the last unknown river in America, the Escalante River, and the undiscovered Henry Mountains (southeastern corner of Utah).

Erin Hansen began doing commissions at the age of 10, has a degree in Bioengineering from UC Berkely, and pioneered an art movement known as Open Impressionism— a minimalist technique of using thick impasto paint without layering.

Sherry Meidell ('Wind Blown Sand') is a member of the Utah Watercolor Society and Society of Children's Books Writers and Illustrators. She has illustrated 9 books and painted murals on 3 classrooms in Kenya.

Steve Harmston ('November's Pasture', 'After the Rain') originally worked as a commercial screen printer before focusing on fine art. He uses an Exacto blade when creating his images. He does not make commercial reproductions of his work and each piece is printed in a limited amount. ■

The Human Touch: Installation by Dennis Martinez

The work presented in the art installation "The Human Touch" is a combination of inspirations and expressions on both a personal level and an Art Historical level.

The two installations with the mannequins are inspired by stories from my parents. The woman is from my mother waiting for my father to return from war with his portrait on the mirrored dresser and portraits of her parents hanging besides it. In the other, my father sits looking at a portrait of my mother who has passed away with images on the hutch that play off memories and thoughts of their life together. There are also portraits of his parents to the side of the work.

Both of these installations are inspired by the works of George Segal. His works are more ambiguous and secular but I project a more personal element to my figures and their environments. The small head sculptures on both corners portray the fragmented or displaced feeling of my father and the determined and optimistic feelings of my mother.

The large paintings are emotions that go with the installations that involve human emotions that play off these situations. The red painting is inspiration for my father from my mother with the touch

of her hand keeping that memory alive. The blue painting is courage and strength from my mother in holding up and supporting her family in times of struggle. The male face on yellow is a self-portrait representing my history and the influences throughout my life. The smaller multicolored face is a general reflection of handling all of life's situations both good and

bad.

Overall, I would like the viewer to bring his or her own memories and experiences to the body of work and reflect on all that life gives to our human condition.

- Dennis Martinez ■



Martinez, Human Expression—Contemplation



Martinez, Fragmented

ST. GEORGE ART MUSEUM'S MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the St. George Art Museum is to educate all visitors through quality exhibitions from all periods, cultures, and media, as well as to collect, conserve, inventory, exhibit, and interpret art and artifacts from Utah and the West.

New Manager/Curator Selected

When Deborah Reeder announced her retirement in the Fall of 2019, the museum went without a director and curator for several months. In lieu of an official director, Gary Sanders, the Community Arts and Exhibits Administrator of St. George, was asked by Michelle Graves to oversee the general activity of the museum. As of January, it has been announced that Sanders is permanently taking over the position. The city is now searching for someone to fill the Community Arts position.

Along with this transfer of hands comes a period of reevaluation and change in many aspects of the museum's operations. Events, purchases, and of course artist bookings had already been decided before Reeder's retirement, and those operations will run their course. As Sanders takes hold, however, the future of these operations will be reconsidered.

Among the first of many changes has been a drop in the ticket price of our yearly Soup N Bowl fundraiser. According to Sanders, "People have \$20s in their pockets.

They don't have \$25s." Sanders hopes that dropping back to \$20 will see an increase in ticket sales, which have been in decline since they peaked in 2012.

One of the most drastic decisions that will affect all museum-goers is to devote the main floor to pieces from the permanent collection. Sanders says "The art belongs to the city; the public should be able to see it." *Unseen Treasures* was the first rendition of this concept. Sanders and Stephanie Wheeler, who curated the *Unseen Treasures*, brought out pieces from the collection that had seldom or never been shown since the museum purchased them. Sanders is continuing to brainstorm ways to get the art into the public eye.

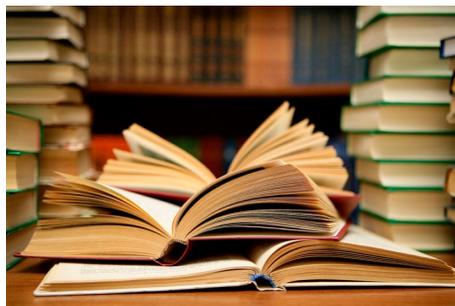
One thing Sanders and Dawn Albrecht, St. George City's Recreation supervisor, have done is expand the school tour program. Every year fourth and fifth grade students tour the museum, do an art activity with a local artist, and experience a Historic St. George Live! performance. Since 2016, the number of classes and students who attend

the tours has diminished from its peak of approximately 3000 students. To breathe new life into the tours and get as many students as possible into the museum, the tours now accommodate as many as three classes in at a time. This has been a new experiment for our docents, who lead the tours, and shortens the time period that students can participate in each activity. However, each student receives a pass to come back for free and become the docent for their families. Having more students pass through the museum allows them to get a glimpse into the world of art that will hopefully remain with them long after the tour ends.

Many other changes will be announced as they come. In the meantime, expect more great exhibits, art classes, and events going forward. The museum will remain a locus of community and arts as it improves and expands its many programs. ■

Monthly Events News

All Art Conversations will be held on the third Wednesdays of each month to avoid overlap with the monthly Book Club meetings.



The Book Club is now meeting every third Thursday at 3:30pm to give attendants an extra 30 minutes of discussion time.

Upcoming Events

Friday March 6th - Soup N' Bowl 11:00am - 1:00pm
\$20 for a lunch, handmade ceramic bowl, silent auction, live music, and museum admission.

Friday March 20th - Exhibit Opening 7:00 - 8:00pm
FREE. Opening of *Bloom: Fiber Arts*. Refreshments will be available.

March 16th - 21st - Free Admission Week
Free entrance to the museum for the exhibit change. Limited access to areas of change.

Friday - Saturday Apr 10th - 11th - Art Festival All Day
Art activities for kids & history of Festival posters display.

Every 3rd Wed. - Art Conversation 7:00 - 8:00pm

FREE. Listen to artists talk about their works on display.

May 20 - Desert Designers

June 17 - History of Art Festival Acquisitions

July 15 - How Fabric Changed History

Every 3rd Thurs.- Book Club 3:30 - 5:00pm

FREE. Come prepared to discuss the book.

May 21 - 84 Charing Cross Road by Helene Hanff

Every 2nd Sat. - smART Saturday 10 - 11:00am

\$3 per child. Includes art lesson and project for children 6-12.

May 9 - Water Lilies with Monet - Featured artist is Claude Monet

News on Exhibit Changes

Visitors will be able to see the museum in transition between exhibits for the first time ever. The museum normally closes for two weeks between exhibit changes. During this time the museum would invite the outgoing artists to take their artwork down, fill out paperwork for incoming art, and lay out the new pieces, measure, and hang the new show.

Rather than closing for two weeks and confusing visitors who are not in on the reason why, Sanders and museum staff have determined it best to keep the museum open while the exhibits are being changed. This allows the flow of visitors to continue uninterrupted and gives them an additional insight into the workings of the museum.

Because the exhibits will be incomplete and there will be loud hammering disrupting the normally peaceful atmosphere of the

museum, entrance during this period will be free. Free admission begins the day the exhibit changes begin on March 16th and remains free until Saturday March 21st.

The new exhibits will have an opening reception March 20th at 6pm. This is a free event and refreshments will be served. ■



Lynn K. Rasmussen-Untitled Ceramic-Raku

UPCOMING EXHIBITS

MARCH 20 — JULY 25, 2020

Main Gallery

*30 Years of Festivals:
Art Festival Acquisitions*

Mezzanine & Legacy Gallery

*Bloom:
Celebrating Strands of
Transformation
Fiber Arts*

Winter Photos 2019-2020



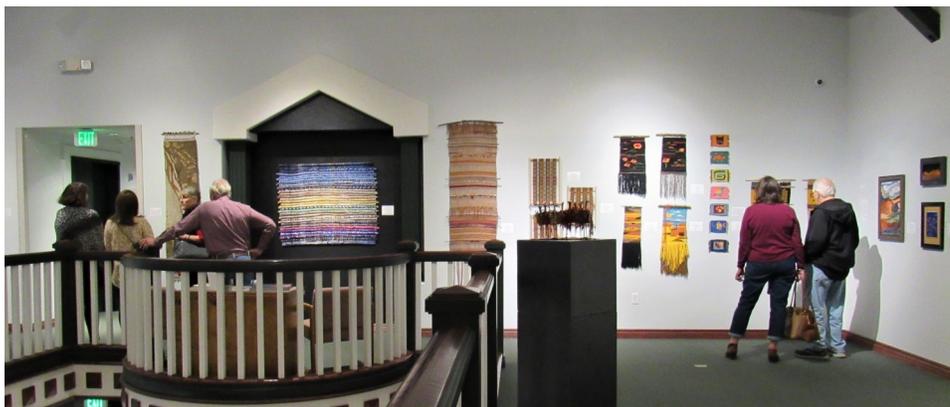
Spooky Lights & Pumpkin Frights



Winter Solstice St. George Opera Company



Lurking in the Shadows Art Show



Twisting Twining Tumbling Opening Reception



Fashion Show



Fourth Grade Student Tours



Light the Night Luminaries on Winter Solstice

Weavers Presenting at School Tours

Every Monday through Thursday morning the museum is bustling and buzzing with the sounds of dozens of students and docents discussing art. For our *Twisting Twining Tumbling* exhibit, weavers with art hanging in the show have added their voice to the morning bustle. From the dozens of weavers with art in the show, ten have volunteered to present their thoughts and skills to small groups of students during the tours. Linda Murie, pictured on the right, demonstrated how the loom works and explained that clothing used to be made by the slow process of weaving. From her demonstration, the students were able to get an idea of how long a simple shirt would have taken to make hundreds of years ago.

We are so thankful to all the weavers who have volunteered their time. Their presence at the museum and their demonstrations have made the art that much more compelling to these students. Whether the students grow up to become artists, doctors, or middle managers, these tours seed the beginning of a lifetime support of the arts. ■



Linda Murie presenting at the loom

Soup N' Bowl, Auction, & Car Show

Our yearly Soup N' Bowl Fundraiser is quickly approaching and we are ramping up for an event bigger and better than before. Your familiar favorites will still be there, but expect a few surprises. Like years past, Glen Blakely donated more than 50 bowls that all ticket-havers can choose from. We also have larger fine-art ceramic pieces for auction. In addition to ceramic pieces, the auction this year will also include paintings and possibly other items as well. The silent auction will conclude strictly at

12:45pm and all winners announced at 1pm. There is also the "buy it now" option where you pay 10% above the indicated price and the item is guaranteed yours. Our yearly drawing will feature pieces from the museum's gift store that you will want to hang around for. We will have a live capella group from the Tuacahn to provide music for the event.

Our biggest change will be the presence of 6 or so classic cars on the back patio. Come to see the juxtaposition of classic cars, provided by Desert Sports Management, with bronze pieces from our permanent collection. The back patio will be a concentration of soup eating, a capella, art, and now classic cars.

Tickets to the Soup N' Bowl are available on the day of the event or beforehand at the museum's front desk. For \$20 per person you get a hand-made ceramic bowl by a local artist or student, delicious soup and dessert, entrance into the museum, access to the silent auction, and a ticket for the drawing. All funds raised through ticket sales and silent auction sales go toward purchasing art for our permanent collection and continuing our legacy as a community for the arts in St. George. ■



"Rainy Day" Cheryl Sachse, Auction Item



We Love Our Docents & Volunteers!

Docents:

Judi Adams
Susan Harvest
Valerie Jueschke
Roberta Robinson
Joan Nielsen
Lois Wilmsen
Lark Whicker
Valerie Cazier
Kay Bestman

Janet Newman
Trudy Ostler
Susan Stephens
Barbara Mason
Marianne Sampson
Gwen Shifflet
Marlene Rose
Bonnie Haughey
Marie Gardiner
Marilyn Hanson

Lynda Worthington
Lisa Weight
Robin Near
Brenda Sun
Docent Supervisors:
Kay Miner
Marilyn Richardson
Linda Tincher

Front Desk Volunteers:

Susan & Stephen Talley
Barbara Caloway
Susan Harvest
Patti Ward
Linda Van Wert
Joan Nielsen ■

Become a docent or volunteer by emailing Maria at maria.frangelli@sgcity.org or calling 435-627-4525

Volunteers Honored at Holiday Lunch

Without the support of our many volunteers the St. George Art Museum would not be able to thrive as it does. Our volunteers provide invaluable help with special projects, fundraisers and front desk support. Docents make it possible for approximately 2000 Washington County 4th and 5th grade school children to visit the Museum each year for an art centered field trip. The Art Museum Advisory Board is responsible for determining how the Art Museum will grow and continue to make relevant and important contributions to St. George, Washington County and Southwestern Utah.

To show our love and appreciation, the museum celebrated these dedicated individuals who so generously give their time at our yearly docent luncheon in January. Festive and

colorful decorations, door prize drawings and a small gift are just tokens of our appreciation. We are eternally grateful for the contributions of all of these generous individuals. ■



All volunteers received poinsettias and the longest-serving received a gift shop item.



Kathy Koldewyn has volunteered at the museum for 20 years!

ART MUSEUM STAFF

Gary Sanders ■ Manager and Curator
Larisa Zhukova ■ Museum Assistant
Maria Frangelli ■ Education Specialist
Jennifer Spong ■ Special Projects
Cheryl Terry ■ Education Outreach

Stephanie Wheeler ■ Art Education
& Collections Care
Bailey Lowe ■ Front Desk
Marlene Rose ■ Front Desk

ART MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD

Steve Brough—Chair
Twila Abrams
Raymond Lowe
Mariya Guynn
Kody Rogers
Kam Capik
Else Picklesimer
Cynthia Jones-Callaghan
Danielle Larkin—City Council Representative

Location, Contact, & Hours

47 E. 200 N.
St. George, UT 84770
435-627-4525
www.sgartmuseum.com

Email: museum@sgcity.org
Mon-Sat 10am - 5pm
3rd Wed 10am - 8pm
Adults \$3, Children \$1, Members Free



CANVAS NEWSLETTER

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Phone: (435) 627-4525
E: museum@sgcity.org



WE'RE ONLINE

www.SGArtMuseum.com

Visit often for information about upcoming exhibits, special events, and fun family activities. You can also view the artwork in our Permanent Collection!

Did you know we have a GIFT STORE? It features art-inspired gifts, jewelry, books, and stationary made by local artists.

Thank You Members & Donors

Support the arts and community by becoming a Member! Members are notified before others about exhibits and events in addition to receiving unlimited admission to the museum for the cost of membership.

The St. George Art Museum enriches our local community with art, classes for kids, musical performances, and many other free and ticketed events every month. If you would like to become a member to help the museum remain a locus of community and art, please come to the museum today or call us at 435-627-4525. ■

New Exhibits at the St. George Art Museum...

March 21 - July 25, 2020

Opening Reception - Friday, March 20 - 6 to 8 pm



Art Festival Acquisitions



Bloom: Celebrating Strands of Transformation
Painted Hills Fiber Artists & Desert Designers