



Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum Exhibitions & Curriculum Guide – Spring 2021

LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS:

*Quality learning in the **visual arts** can take many forms and be exemplified by exposure to a range of media, processes, and artists throughout time.

*Students effectively **listen and speak** in situations that serve different purposes and involve a variety of audiences.

*Students develop **critical thinking skills** in understanding events and participating as consumers, decision makers, problem solvers, managers, and planners.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please call or email: **480-644-6561**
Colette.Pecenka@mesaaz.gov

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE!

We'd love to hear your students' response to our exhibitions. We appreciate **pictures and letters!**
 Please email:

Mesacontemporaryarts@MesaAZ.gov

Mesa Contemporary Arts (MCA) Museum has cancelled onsite tours, but will be offering prerecorded, virtual tours and art activity options of exhibitions as they become available. Below is our schedule for the **Spring 2021 Season**. In addition, we have limited art activities from past exhibitions that are packaged and ready for use. Please email Colette Pecenka, Curator of Exhibitions and Education at colette.pecenka@mesaaz.gov to discuss offerings.

History Repeats **Ann Morton**

Dec 18, 2020-Mar 28, 2021 South Gallery

Arizona artist Ann Morton exploits traditional textile techniques as conceptual tools for aesthetic, social communication to examine a society of which we are all a part - as bystanders, participants, victims, and perpetrators. In addition to works that reflect her personal handwork, Morton's practice is equally engaged in orchestrating public projects that call for collaboration between herself and community participants that advocate awareness of social issues of mutual concern. The works featured in this retrospective exhibition span from 2006 until today and reflect socio-political concerns that rose to consciousness during these years.

*Ann Morton is a 2018 proposal winner

The Murmuration of Found Feathers in Flight Jan 15-April 4, 2021 North Gallery **Alexandra Bowers**

Arizona artist Alexandra Bowers is known for her intricate nature inspired pyrographic (burned wood), watercolor, and wax pigment-colored drawings. For this exhibition, Bowers uses her work to create a healing and tranquil space during this time of change and transition. Her latest installation, A Murmuration of Found Feathers in Flight, immortalizes in wood the 1,000 feather photographs she received from the community. The drawings, which are suspended from the gallery wall, are mobilized by a light breeze, simulating the effect of floating feathers.

*Alexandra Bowers is the 2021 North Gallery proposal winner

Forbidden Colors **Harold Lohner**

Dec 18 -April 18, 2021 SRP Gallery

Arizona artist Harold Lohner is a font designer and printmaker, who makes one-of-a-kind print editions. Through bold, graphic shapes, Lohner captures the human figure in patterned layers and colors to create visually striking monoprints and one-of-a-kind artist books. His subject matter centers on male identity and dual concepts of revealed individuality versus concealed anonymity.

*Harold Lohner is a 2019 proposal winner

42nd Annual Contemporary Craft

Feb 12-April 25, 2021 Main Gallery

Highlighting the finest in contemporary crafts from across the country, Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum's Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibition has become a benchmark for innovation and quality. Representative of traditional craft mediums including ceramics, fibers, basketry, metals, wood, glass, jewelry, papermaking, and book arts.

Preserving Precious Elements

Feb 12-April 25, 2021 Project Room

Becky McDonah

Metalsmith, Becky McDonah focuses on the format of the reliquary for its ability to elaborately protect and display venerated objects. She explores issues dealing with importance of position, presentation, and access or limited access to the contents. McDonah initiates contemplation that elevates the ordinary. By using extensive ornamentation, she aspires to glorify symbolic contents. This opens the mind to the little things, giving a larger picture to cultural practices, and ideals on a national, regional, and personal level.

*Becky McDonah is the 41st Annual Contemporary Craft winner

Pop-up Exhibition in conjunction with the Regional Unity Art Walk

Human Contrasts / "...Veterans of Creative Suffering"

Guest Curator: Clottee Hammons, Creative Director, Emancipation Arts LLC

December 18, 2020 – January 31, 2021—Project Room

Human contrasts are those individuals that on the surface appear very dissimilar and disconnected. What might an old white man have in common with a young Black man? In "newspeak" it might be expressed as ***intersectionality***.

Perhaps they are poor... and employers will not hire "their kind".

Perhaps they are both experiencing food insecurity... and depend on fleeting street kitchens.

Perhaps they are both military veterans... which has resulted in mental health issues and an unwieldy system has failed them.

Perhaps they are immigrants... scanning the air for a reassuring and familiar phrase.

Perhaps they are homeless... and lonely.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. referred to them in his famous "I Have A Dream" speech. They have always existed in the world, the country and in Arizona. In this exhibition artists Sebastiao Pereira, Leonard Wilson, JJ Westgate, Scott Chamberlain and Peter Votichenko look deep into humanity to render the ***Veterans of Creative Suffering*** that are all around us.

The following are targeted Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards and Arizona Academic Standards that correspond to our current exhibitions and art activities.

VISUAL ARTS

VA.CR.1.5a: Combine ideas to generate an innovative idea for art-making.

VA.CN.3.7: Reflect on and explain important information about personal artwork in an artist statement or another format.

VA.RE.7.3a: Use art-specific vocabulary to speculate about processes an artist used to create a work of art.

VA.RE.7.3b: Determine messages communicated by an image.

VA.RE 7:7: Cite specific evidence from an artwork and relevant evidence from the context to support an interpretation of the mood, message or meaning of that artwork.

VA.RE 8:8: Create a convincing and logical argument to support an evaluation of art by citing both evidence visible in the artwork and published verbal information about the artwork or about the artist who made it.

VA.RE 8:HS Proficient: Interpret an artwork or collection of works, supported by relevant and sufficient evidence found in the work and its various contexts.

VA.PR 9:4: Evaluate an artwork based on given criteria.

VA.PR 9:5: Recognize differences in criteria used to evaluate works of art depending on styles, genres, and media.

LANGUAGE ARTS

P3-8SL.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on *topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

6-8.L.6: Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

9-12.SL.1: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on *grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

P3-8SL.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

MATH

4.MP.7: Look for and make use of structure.

4.G.A.3: Recognize a line of symmetry for a two-dimensional figure as a line across the figure such that the figure can be folded along the line into matching parts. Identify line-symmetric figures and draw lines of symmetry.

4.G.A.1: Draw points, lines, line segments, rays, angles (right, acute, obtuse), and perpendicular and parallel lines. Identify these in two-dimensional figures.

SCIENCE

S4:C4.L1U1.5: Develop and use models to explain that plants and animals (including humans) have internal and external structures that serve various functions that aid in growth, survival, behavior, and reproduction.

S4:C4.L4U1.11: Analyze and interpret environmental data demonstrate that species either adapt and survive, or go extinct over time.

SOCIAL STUDIES

S1:C1:PO3: Use primary source material and secondary source materials to study people and events from the past.

S4:C4:PO4: Discuss elements of cultural of a community in areas studied.