

CALDERA: Event is free to all at Caldera, 16 miles west of Sisters

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feel it. To share it with my son has been really special.”

Parent-artists traditionally face difficulty accessing arts programs such as residencies. Caldera works to make residencies more inclusive. Gray and partner Ryan Wilson Paulsen were able to bring their 8-year-old son Calder along.

Portland-based Gray and Paulsen collaborate on multidisciplinary works, delving into books, history, materiality, education, and other subjects.

When not working, they adventure with Calder. “We’ve snowshoed, measured the depth of the lake, invented a game called swacky wacky,” said Gray. They sledged and made poems in the snow.

The artists brought a play and other works-in-progress to Caldera. Then a new project evolved, influenced by the distinctive Central Oregon landscape.

They began making inks from lichen, and pigment powder ground from rocks. With these, they’ve created a series of nearly 70 drawings.

Gray described the couple’s time back at home as “fractured” with the practicalities of wage-earning, taking kids to swim lessons, and the like.

“Here, there is no fracture and we have the freedom to try things out without a specific

end in mind,” she said. “We also don’t have a spacious, workable studio space in Portland, so the generous studio at Caldera makes whole new set of ideas possible.”

María Alejandra Barrios is a writer in residence, working on a collection of interlinked short stories about immigration. The final two were written at Caldera.

“The first week was a bit rough,” Barrios said of her time here. She grew up on the Caribbean coast of Colombia and now lives in New York City. “Being in the middle of the woods, and in such a different landscape to the one where I grew up...made me feel a little bit uneasy the first couple of days.”

As she got to know the other artists and became acclimated to silence, she began to enjoy the experience. Many ideas arrived. “It’s like the quiet allows me to be able to hear my thoughts and my ideas clearly,” she explained.

For Open Studios, she plans to read from a short story written at Caldera. “It’s a parallel between motherhood, alien abductions, and immigration,” she said.

“I enjoy reading new work in these kinds of events since my work is very voice-driven,” Barrios continued. “I like seeing the reactions from the public and hearing their feedback afterward.”

The Oregon Arts Commission announced its prestigious artists fellowships while Anthony Hudson was in residency. The multidisciplinary artist, writer, and performer was on the list.

Hudson (Grande Ronde) also received a fellowship from the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation last year. Hudson is known by many as Carla Rossi, “the premier drag clown of Portland, Oregon.” Their play “Still Looking for Tiger Lily” is in process at Artists Repertory Theatre.

From Brooklyn arrives Andres Chang, working in interdisciplinary arts, computation, and sound, among other modalities. Climate change is a common thread in his work.

Visual artist and educator Jefferson Greene comes to Caldera from up the road apiece. Born and raised on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, he is currently focused on language preservation in the Columbia Plateau.

Farooq Ahmed was raised in Kansas, studied writing at Columbia and biochemistry at Brown, and now lives in Los Angeles. His work appears in the *Financial Times* and *Nature*, among others. His novel *Kansastan* will be published this year.

Portland-based multidisciplinary artist May Cat is inspired by her Thai-American roots. She aims to “present the perspectives of the Southeast Asian community.”



PHOTO BY TAMBI LANE

This Saturday, the Artists in Residence program at Caldera welcomes locals to its first 2019 Open Studios.

AiR Open Studios is free to all, and takes place Saturday, January 26 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Snacks and coffee are available. Presentations begin at 1 p.m.

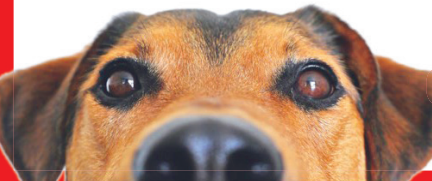
Caldera is located 16 miles west of Sisters off Highway 20 at 31500 Blue Lake Dr. Turn

down SW Suttle Lake Lp., drive two miles to Caldera’s gate, and follow signs to the Hearth Building. Additional information is available at www.calderaarts.org.

Open Studios will be held twice more this season, on February 23 and March 23.

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