

ARTISTS: Several native artists will display work

Continued from page 4

and founder of the Great Basin Native Artists collective, her contemporary mixed media paintings offer images drawn from the consciousness of her people.

Melissa incorporates organic objects such as sand and pinion nuts onto a canvas with acrylic washes to create a layered and dimensional look to her pieces. She states, "I view these works as a personal collaboration of my culture, individual development, and curious expression of the world around me. My intention is to share with others the beauty of the Great Basin area, people, and culture."

A renowned abstract artist in Sisters, Oregon recently said of her works, "They're meditative, quiet, with a spiritual quality that is somewhat understated. Every piece has a personal focal point for a person, allowing them to enter the work. They're really good!"

Joey Allen, Paiute and Shoshone, grew up and continues to live in the Fallon, NV area. He's a tule reed craftsman in the most traditional sense, as well as a local guide. The area of nearby Stillwater shelters lakes, where ducks have long been hunted. Like duck hunting today, decoys were traditionally used to bring the waterfowl closer to the hunters.

Joey apprenticed under master Paiute Tule Decoy maker Martin George in the 1990s. This area, the Lahontan Valley, once held the largest lake in the American West. It was a major nesting area and fly-way for the waterfowl of North America's Pacific region. Joey's decoys could have been used in the old days to lure in ducks; today, they can be either works of art or used as hunting decoys.

Tia Flores has Navajo and Aztec ancestral heritage. Her paternal grandmother's family made their home in the Nevada Great Basin desert while her maternal side instilled within her the strong Indigenous connections to the Earth. Combined, it is these two ancestral elements that guide Tia as a pyrographer—an artist who creates images with burning tools.

Decorative gourd art dates back 4,000 years in the Western Hemisphere as Indigenous Peoples used various tools and ash to inscribe and darken prepared gourds with elaborate, narrative images. Tia's drum, masks, totems, and jewelry are



PHOTO PROVIDED

Joey Allen and his family. He will be part of the Raven Makes show on Friday and through the weekend.

delicately embellished with culturally themed designs.

The Great Basin Artist's Show will be in Sisters July 26-28 at Raven Makes Gallery, 182 E. Hood Ave.

Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. is the artist's reception, Saturday and Sunday the artists will also be available to discuss their works from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Bend repeals local bag ban ahead of state law

BEND (AP) — The Bend City Council has repealed a local plastic bag ban to allow the state's ban to take over.

The Bend Bulletin reports that the idea to repeal the local law was floated last month as a way to eliminate confusion between the local law — which started July 1 — and the state law slated to begin in January.

With the repeal, voted on Wednesday, now in effect, local retailers will no longer be officially required to charge 10 cents for paper bags.

The City Council in December established an ordinance to ban plastic grocery bags in Bend after months of lobbying from a community group and middle school students.

The state law, signed by Gov. Kate Brown on June 20, dictates that all retail establishments will not be allowed to provide single-use plastic bags, but allows retailers to provide recycled paper bags, reusable heavy plastic bags, or reusable fabric bags for a charge of at least five cents per bag.

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