

# MAYOR'S ART SHOW RETURNS

The city is bringing back the popular juried show of local art

**W**hen the Jacobs Gallery closed in 2016, it meant the end for the Mayor's Art Show, leaving Eugene without a popular art celebration that had spanned decades.

This summer, the Mayor's Art Show — which had its last run in 2015 — will come back, in a smaller form, as a part of a week-long summer art festival showcasing the area's many galleries as well as recognizing talented contemporary and street artists.

Isaac Marquez, the director of the city's Cultural Services Division, says he sees the importance of visual art in Eugene.

"When the Jacobs Gallery closed, we heard loud and clear that the visual arts were a priority for this community," Marquez says.

The Mayor's Art Show, which dates back to the 1980s, was a juried exhibition to which Lane County residents were encouraged to submit their art. A jury chose works to be featured in the private non-profit Jacobs Gallery in the lower level of the Hult Center.

Art rejected by the Mayor's Art Show jury could be exhibited at the Salon des Refusés at the New Zone Gallery.

The new mayor's show, open only to Eugene artists, will be held in the now-smaller Jacobs Community Room at the Hult. Rejected works can still be shown at the New Zone's salon.

"The salon is such a spirited part and a complement to the Mayor's Art Show. It seems like one should go with the other," Marquez says.

So far, the mayor's art show has received 40 submissions, although Marquez says he is hoping for 100.

"Right now we have more opportunities for artists and

the arts than ever before, especially with the visual arts," Marquez says. "We can help create a catalyst that leads to more support for the visual arts."

The new Eugene Biennial will also be back this year.

Karin Clarke created the biennial in 2016 as an every-other-year event serving as a stand-in for the Mayor's Art Show. The juried show, hosted at her downtown gallery, invited artists from Lane and neighboring counties to submit their work; a jury has already picked the 31 works for this year's show.

In the off year, Clarke hosts a separate art show for the seven winners of the biennial from the previous year.

"I knew it wouldn't be a replacement for the Mayor's Art Show, but I wanted it to be something," she says.

Clarke hopes the city festival will create excitement for the biennial, which will run from July 25 to August 25. In the future, she sees a possibility of involving more galleries and venues to create the energy of the old Eugene Celebration, which jacked off each year with the Mayor's Art Show opening.

"It will be really interesting to see how the energy is with the two exhibits — if people will be comparing them or if we will get more traffic," she says.

Marquez is hopeful that those who submit work and attend the shows are inspired and surprised by the arts, especially local art.

"I think events like this are worth investing in because it gives us an opportunity as a community a chance to invest in each other," Marquez says.

*To enter the Mayor's Art Show, participants must pay an entry fee of \$15 and submit their art by June 17 at [callforentry.org](http://callforentry.org). The show will run July 27 to Aug. 25.*

## ACTIVIST ALERT

• **Wilma Crowe, Native American elder, youth advocate and Eugene resident for most of her adult life turns 100 years old**, Sunday, June 10 and will be celebrated at the Lane Community College Longhouse, 4000 East 30th Avenue. Crowe is a member of North Dakota's Standing Rock tribe. The family welcomes the community and friends to celebrate with them from 11 am to 3 pm. The festivities will be a potluck and organizers say Crowe "has strongly requested that the people and their friendship is all the gift she would ever want."

• **The Interfaith Prayer Service International (IPSI)** is having a special 200th monthly prayer service June 11 with the theme: Celebrating Our Community. The organization says it will honor many "interfaith angels" in the community during that service. Among the presenters and honored citizens will be Rev. Dan Bryant, Eric Richardson of NAACP and Bill Harris, former president of IPSI, and another half a dozen others. Former Mayor Kitty Piercy will present the honor certificates. The service begins 6:45 pm June 11, at First Christian Church, 1166 Oak Street.

• The No LNG Coalition will rally at 10 am Tuesday, June 12, prior to the State Land Board meeting in Salem to **protest the proposed Jordan Cove Export Terminal and Pacific Connector Fracked Gas Pipeline**. Public comments will be delivered orally to the State Land Board during their public comment process. Wear red and bring your signs! To join a carpool from Eugene email [sam@casc-wild.org](mailto:sam@casc-wild.org). Find out more at [world.350.org/eugene](http://world.350.org/eugene).

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