

Trail's End celebrates the Fourth of July with 65th annual Judged Competition

GEARHART — Artists from all over the local area and points beyond have entered artwork in the Trail's End Art Association's 65th annual Judged Competition. TEAA invites the public to enjoy the show and view the winning artwork.

The judges this year are well known to the art community. Charles Schwegert, Scott Leahing and Teri Sund will share their expertise and observations about the winning art at the Artists' Reception from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 4 at the Trail's End Art Center Gallery. Enjoy wine and cheese, see the winning art selected by this year's judges, and talk to the artists.

Charles Schwegert, an internationally recognized painter, works in many media on canvas, wood panel and a variety of unusual papers. Influenced by the traditional Japanese aesthetic and many concepts found in Buddhist teachings, Schwegert's most recent work illustrates the "less is more" idea. Called "suburi" (a form of meditation in martial arts) it is a series of abstract



Submitted photo

This watercolor by Debbie Loyd was the People's Choice award winner in last year's 64th annual show at TEAA.

renderings representing the movement of a sword through space.

This thoughtfulness of approach to his own art making and his appreciation for contemporary arts such as wood-fired ceramics, Japanese textiles and basketry, make him a sought-after judge.

Originally from Michigan, Schwegert has lived and worked in the Southwest and the Northwest, having shown his work in Santa Fe, Port-

land, Denver and Seattle and currently in Scottsdale and Albuquerque, Arizona. His work is in private and corporate collections all over the world. Locally, his work can be seen at RiverSea Gallery in Astoria, White Bird Gallery in Cannon Beach and at Gallery 903 in Portland.

Scott Leahing, co-owner with Tim Masuelli of Dots 'N Doodles Art Supplies in Astoria, is an award-winning ceramist, as well as a photographer. His photographs can be seen in exhibits around town. At Dots 'N Doodles, he provides a wealth of information to local artists on the latest materials, supplies and techniques.

Leahing holds degrees in psychology and fine art. He has been a licensed mental health counselor and a university instructor in ceramics. Born in Jamaica, world traveled and deeply involved in the Northwest art scene, Leahing has brought a unique perspective to the judging of this show.

Teri Sund, owner and gallery director of Imogen Gallery in Astoria, is an artist in her own right as well as a discerning promoter of the arts. She is also a judge much in demand because of her broad familiarity with the visual arts. Sund began working in

galleries while obtaining her own fine arts degree. She studied art history in Greece and served a museum internship before moving to Seattle to manage a gallery that focused on high-end handcrafted furniture and sculpture.

Sund was invited by Evelyn Georges to manage White Bird Gallery in Cannon Beach, and some years later Sund managed RiverSea Gallery in Astoria, a position she held for 12 years. At that time, she also worked as director of the Art Center Gallery at Clatsop Community College. Three years ago, Sund opened Imogen Gallery, a place that dishes up a wide array of new visuals in many media, techniques and styles.

A member of ArtTable, a nationally recognized nonprofit group supporting professional women in the arts, Sund says she has felt privileged to work with all artists, whether student or internationally known.

Trail's End Art Association is a nonprofit group with the purpose to encourage the promotion of the arts among artists of all levels by providing work space, workshops and classes and the opportunity for artists to exhibit their work every month in a new show. With the exception of the annual show in July (which is open to member and non-member artists), the monthly exhibits are not judged. They are open to all artist-members of Trail's End and open to the public for viewing without charge.



Submitted photo

Portland musician Alexa Wiley will perform at KALA at 8 p.m. Saturday, June 27.

Alexa Wiley to play KALA

ASTORIA — KALA will welcome singer/songwriter Alexa Wiley at 9 p.m. Saturday, June 27. Wiley performs in concert as Alexa Wiley and the Wilderness, presenting songs from her recently released album of the same title.

A Portland-based artist, Wiley has been a musical presence in Astoria over the last decade. She first appeared at the Voodoo Room as opener for Astoria folk icon Michael Hurley, as a solo acoustic act, wowing the audience with her distinctive acoustic groove, edgy voice and ability to craft political messages and lyric song quality.

For Wiley, it all runs together into a unified ethos that guides her craft and her career. Politics, music and place are one and the same for the post-folk troubador. Wiley has performed at fundraisers for Columbia River Keeper and NO LNG activist events. Her passion for this local and global cause moved her to write an explicitly anti-LNG song titled "Beer on Ice," which is

featured in "Columbia Crossings: Oregon Faces America's Energy Future," a documentary centered on the movement in Oregon against proposed liquefied natural gas terminals.

Wiley has also teamed up with Astoria fisherpoet Dave Densmore in a performance collaboration called For the Love of Fish, which makes frequent appearances in the region.

The upcoming concert at KALA features a four-piece band fronted by Wiley featuring a range of originals and a handful of covers. The Wilderness includes Sean Oldham on drums, Dale Turnbull on bass, guitarist Bret Malmquist, and the crowd-pleasing multi-instrumentalist Steve Dearborn on banjo, flute, penny whistle, mandolin, guitar and more.

Doors open at 8 p.m. for cocktails and light food specials. There is an \$8 cover. Michael Hurley promises to join the stage for a song. KALA is located at 1017 Marine Drive. For more information, call 503-338-4878.

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