

Submit artwork to juried spring show

Longview's Columbian Artists Association issues call for art

KELSO, Wash. — Area artists are invited to participate in the Columbian Artists Association's 40th annual juried Spring Art Show, to be held March 19 through April 3 at the Thee Rivers Mall, 3513 Three Rivers Drive (Space D-1168, near Macy's).

The show is open to artists 18 years old and older from Cowlitz, Clark, Wahkiakum, Lewis, and Pacific counties in

Washington, and Clatsop and Columbia counties in Oregon.

Entries must be original, two-dimensional work, completed in the past two years. Work will be judged, and cash awards will be given in each category. Additional awards include a memorial award, sponsor awards, and people's choice award.

Entries will be received from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon-

day, March 14 at the Thee Rivers Mall.

A prospectus with details regarding rules, categories, sizes, etc., and an entry form are available at the Columbian Artists Association's website, www.columbianartists.org. They are also available at the Broadway Gallery in Longview and the Tsuga Gallery in Cathlamet, or by calling 360-425-0142.

AHS graduation celebration committee holds fundraiser

ASTORIA — The Astoria High School Class of 2016 Safe & Sober Celebration Committee will be selling teriyaki chicken bowls at the Friday, Jan. 29 Clatsop Clash varsity boys basketball game as a fundraiser. The fundraiser starts at 6

p.m. and goes to 7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$6 for a bowl of teriyaki chicken and rice plus a bottle of water. For another \$1 you can add steamed vegetables for a healthful alternative to the regular concessions.

The Safe & Sober Celebra-

tion Committee works to hold an all-night party for graduating seniors, giving them a safe place to have fun and celebrate their accomplishments. Planned fundraisers include T-shirt and sweatshirt sales, a raffle and more.

Donations are gratefully accepted and can be mailed to AHS 2016 SSCC, c/o Di Bartolomeo Law Office, 1139 Exchange St., Astoria, OR 97103.

Pianist performs at Raymond Theatre

RAYMOND, Wash. — Sunday Afternoon Live presents a special mid-week performance from noon to 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 3 at the Raymond Theatre.

Pianist Jake Sele will perform on the theater's Boardman-Gray piano.

Sele is the pianist of Seattle electro-swing band The Good Co and Seattle experimental jazz and avant-rock band Spontaneous Rex.

After graduating from Cornish College of the Arts with a bachelor's degree in piano performance, Sele quickly became an established performer in the Seattle music scene. He has toured throughout the United States and Canada playing keyboard as well as trombone (and the occasional mad whistle solo) and performs with salsa, rock, funk, jazz, and experimental groups in Seattle.



Submitted photo by Renaud Kasma Photography

Pianist Jake Sele will give a performance Feb. 3 at the Raymond Theatre.

Suggested donation for the performance is \$15. Brown bag lunches are welcome. Soft drinks will be available at the theater concession stand, and audience

members are welcome to come and go as their schedule allows during the performance.

The Raymond Theatre is located at 323 Third St.

CCC celebrates 10th annual 'Au Naturel'

ASTORIA — The 10th annual international juried exhibit "Au Naturel: The Nude in the 21st Century" is on display now through March 10 at Clatsop Community College's Royal Nebeker Gallery, located at 1799 Lexington Ave. A reception honoring the selected artists will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28.

Awards to be announced at the reception include cash prizes, purchase awards, a solo show award to be held during the 2016-17 exhibition season, and workshop awards. The reception is free and open to the public. A No-Host Post-Reception party at the Bridge-water Bistro will immediately follow the reception.

This exhibit marks the competition's 10th consecutive year and is being held in memory of Royal Nebeker, the internationally renowned artist and instructor who taught at Clatsop Community College for over 30 years and who served as the first juror for the competition.

This year's juror is Lisa Harris, owner of Lisa Harris Gallery in Seattle, which represents 30 West Coast contemporary artists, including Royal Nebeker. Harris is a founding member of the Seattle Art Dealers Association and a member of Art Table, the national organization of women in the visual arts.

Artists from 33 states the District of Columbia, and Canada, Mexico and Romania submitted nearly 500 images for consideration. The 2016 exhibit will represent 52 artists from 17 states plus the District of Columbia, in addition to Canada and Romania.

"I was very pleased to be asked to jury this exhibition, which allowed me to revel in subject matter that is less common at our gallery," Harris said. "It was challenging to narrow a field of more than 400 entries to just over 50."

Artists participating in the 2016 Au Naturel exhibit are drawn to the subject matter of the human form for a vari-



Submitted photo

"Dioscuric," a charcoal on paper drawing by Nick Reszetar of Milan, Michigan.

ety of reasons. Nick Reszetar of Milan, Michigan, believes that "the human figure is one of the most profound and challenging art forms an artist can choose to take on, as it is a complex subject in formal, psychological and conceptual terms, and is one of the most engaging forms for an audience to view."

Robert Bibler of Salem, is not only inspired by the artwork of the Old Masters but also by the art materials of centuries past. Laura Viola Preciado of Langley, Washington, draws inspiration from art historical sources. Preciado's painting "The Naked Toreador" is a direct reference to Manet's famous 19th century painting "The Dead Toreador," which was in turn inspired by the work of the 17th century Spanish painter Velasquez.

On the other hand, Kerry Conboy of Monterey, California, explores a current issue with contemporary materials. The piece he exhibits explores "the way selfies turn a model into an artist, who then turns the model into a product. I work primarily in spray paint on plastered canvas, referencing offset printing and graffiti."

Several other artists in the show experiment with unusual combinations of mixed-media. Penny Treat of Long Beach, Washington, exhibits a piece that combines painting and

printmaking techniques with her own process of layering a transparent hand-painted image on top of a colorful monotype.

Many artists have expressed interest in delving beneath the surface of the skin to explore the inner landscape of the human psyche. Stephanie Fenner of Dundee, Michigan, hopes "to convey the poeticism of romance, loss, and fleeting emotion. There is the overwhelming notion that everyone else knows what they're doing with their life, and one is alone in their suffering. These moments, although momentary in reality, have a sense of permanence. The uncertainty of my own life seems solidified by the certainty of everyone else's. It is in these insecurities that I wish to explore."

Michael Reedy of Ann Arbor, Michigan, explains that in his most recent drawings, he has "revisited the timeless themes of life, death, and the human condition. This new interest in the expulsion and the fall of man has been paired with my prior leanings, which have long been rooted in fringe images of the body, medical illustration, ornamentation, dark comedy, and the uncanny. These inevitable aspects of existence bring to mind the most tragic, and most beautiful, images of the body."