

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Lifetime Honor for Local Artist

'Where I live,' one of the vivid color oils by Portland's Mary Josephson, a master artist whose works are currently exhibited in a public display in the Governor's office at the State Capitol.

Governor Hosts Mary Josephson works

An exhibition of oil paintings and charcoal drawings by Portland artist Mary Josephson is on display in the office of Gov. Ted Kulongoski through March 5.

Josephson's paintings make masterful use of a vivid color palette coupled with a strong design sense. Her works address the human character or spirit. They retain a sense of humor while conveying goodness; and recognize an individual's ability to rise above adversity with a mythological-like strength.

The showing is part of the Art in the Governor's Office Program honoring selected Oregon artists with exhibitions in the reception area of the Governor's Office in the State Capitol. An exhibit in the Governor's office is considered a lifetime honor.

Born in 1953 in Biloxi, Miss., Josephson grew up in a military family that moved frequently. As a result, she saw constant change in both the landscape and friends.

She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Pacific Northwest College of Art, and certificates from Parsons School of Design and Ecole National Superior Des Beaux Artes in Paris.

She has been a teacher at Oregon College of Art and Craft and taught art to TAG and at-risk youth in Portland Public Schools. Her work is in major regional collections including the Portland Art Museum, Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Eugene; the Tacoma Art Museum, Portland Community College, and OHSU, among others. She is represented by the Laura Russo Gallery, Portland.

In 1994 she received an Oregon Arts Commission Artist Fellowship and in 2003, was awarded the Edwin Austin Abbey Fellowship for Mural Painting from the National Academy of Design in New York.

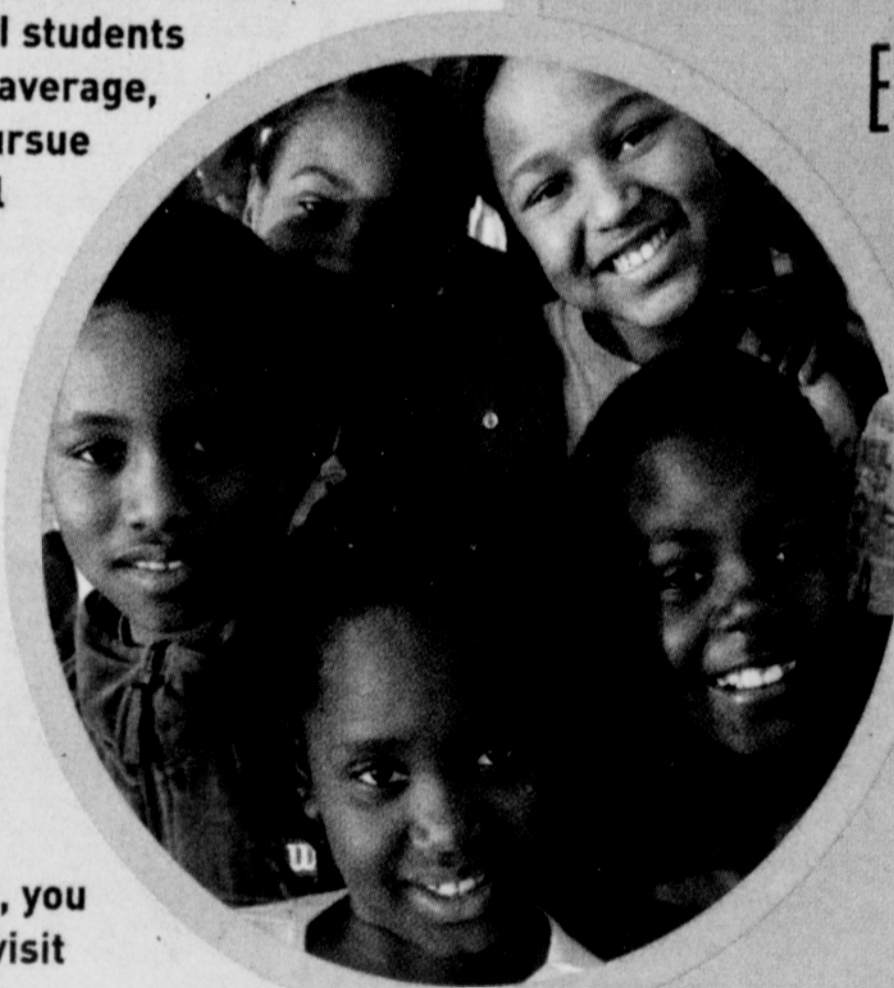
Mary Josephson's work may be seen in the Office of the Governor, 2nd floor, Oregon State Capitol, 900 Court Street in Salem, Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Each year, in Portland, only 54% of African-American students graduate from high school. Yet in 2008 and 2009, every single one of SEI students graduated. As in 100%. Plus, on average, more than 85% continue on to pursue higher education or occupational training, many being the first in their families to do so.

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