

# 'Call to artists' out for Nature in the Abstract exhibit at Josephy Center

Chieftain staff

JOSEPH — A "call to artists" is going out from the Josephy Center for Arts and Culture in Joseph for an exhibit to be called Nature in the Abstract and held Jan. 7-Feb. 22, according to a press release.

Eligible media include photography, paintings, collage and 3-D including ceramic, fabric, metal and wood.

The entry deadline is Nov. 19. Artists will be informed of acceptance by Nov. 30.

An entry fee of \$15 per piece will be charged for entries in the first two categories, and \$10 per piece in the youth category paid to the Josephy Center. There is a limit of five entries per artist.

This is a juried show. The curators are Ellen Mor-

ris Bishop and Debbie Lind. According to the release, people usually observe nature as discrete, recognizable subjects: a mountain, a bird, a tree, a river, etc. But in reality, the view of nature is composed of textures, shapes, forms and colors. These telling patterns often are overlooked when viewing a familiar object or scene.

The center's exhibit encourages artists to examine and reveal nature beyond the familiar, especially in a rapidly changing world.

Entries must depict a specific natural subject. The artwork may depict a real pattern in nature as it exists — for example, a macro-photo of the variegated colors and patterns of lichen — or may represent the artist's interpretation of the subject through some

form of abstraction, such as a painting that depicts the patterns of fall foliage as blends of colors, bands and stripes.

In either category, the viewer may not be able to identify the specific object or landscape, but is compelled to consider the patterns, forms and design.

Awards to be given include first, second and third place in all categories. Cash awards of \$100, \$50, \$25 and ribbons will be given to each winner.

A People's Choice award winner will receive \$50.

Sponsors of the awards are to be determined.

For an application to enter the exhibit, visit <https://josephy.org/event/nature-in-the-abstract-call#application>. For more information, visit [info@josephy.org](mailto:info@josephy.org) or call 541-432-0505.

# Diverse group planned for November Fishtrap Fireside

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — Wallowa County writers Lauren MacDonald, Randi Movich and Amy Zahm will be featured in Fishtrap Fireside's November episodes beginning Nov. 5 in online presentations, according to a press release.

The episodes are available to anyone anywhere at [Fishtrap.org](http://Fishtrap.org) and on Fishtrap's YouTube channel.

Fishtrap Fireside is a monthly reading series designed to feature diverse voices from local writers. Each month offers a fresh look at what people of the West are thinking about and writing down.

"This fall, we're offering Fireside virtually again," said Mike Midlo, Fishtrap's program director. "The advantage of that is how many people can enjoy these stories not only here at home, but share them with friends and family wherever they live."

November's Fishtrap Fireside is sponsored by

local tea purveyor, Sei Mee Tea.

MacDonald works with words while exploring the cosmos: plants, stars, humans, mysteries, patterns, roles, love and pain. Her work is her expression of experiencing the natural world inside and out.

Raised in California's San Fernando Valley, Movich could not wait to leave the neighborhood for ocean swims, camping, backpacking and skiing. That wanderlust brought her to a life of work and discovery in Marseille, France, a Peace Corps assignment in West Africa, six months in Central and South America, graduate school in Idaho, a stint in Eugene working at the Western Environmental Law Center, back to Guinea for two years working with traditional healers

and midwives, to Ashland and finally, to Wallowa County.

After almost 10 years as a nurse, Movich's main writing assignment is documenting chart notes. But after attending Fishtrap's Outpost on the Snake River program, she rediscovered her desire to write and wander again. When not at Winding Waters Clinic or out and about on trail, she can be found on Alder Slope where she lives with husband, Jeff and youngest daughter, Rosie; cat October; dog, Mia; and assorted chickens. Two older daughters are out of state.

Zahm grew up in, ran away from and later returned to Wallowa County and has now lived here for two-thirds of her life. She spends her time in the mountains, valleys and canyons of the county, either on foot, on skis or on horseback. In addition to writing, she is a doctor of acupuncture and oriental medicine and uses yoga to ease her patients' pain.

Her writing focuses on the connections between place, history, a discovery of self, and the ways in which a perfectly ordinary life might provide some sort of insight into the magical world we each inhabit. Her work has been published online at Atticus Review, Streetlight, Manifest-Station, Jenny and in print at The Normal School, Post Road and Oregon East. She received her MFA in creative writing from Eastern Oregon University.

Learn more at [Fishtrap.org](http://Fishtrap.org).



MacDonald



Movich



Zahm



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