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Permanent collection art on display at CAM

COOS BAY — Through April 18, Coos Art Museum will present a selection of “Works from the Permanent Collection” filling its three main floor galleries. This exhibition features painting, sculpture and fiber art including many of the larger works in the collection.

A highlight of the exhibition will be the 17-foot-long “Mary Wilson Triptych” by Oregon artist Mitch Geisert. The painting in three panels is a tribute to talents of jazz singer Mary Wilson and was donated to the Museum in 1993 by the family of the artist.

Other works in the exhibition include two watercolors, “T-Bird” and “Even Damnation Poisoned by Rainbow” by popular Portland artist Kirk Lybecker.

The Coos Art Museum’s Permanent Collection now consists of more than 570

artworks and is growing through donations and occasional purchases. The collection contains many original works by Pacific Northwest artists and this exhibition includes many notable Oregon artists.

Coos Art Museum has been a cultural focal point of Oregon’s scenic Southern Coast since 1966. It occupies the historic 1936 Art Deco U.S. Federal Building in downtown Coos Bay.

The museum offers a wide range of arts activities including exhibitions, art classes and lectures.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, and 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday.

Museum admission: \$5 general, \$2 students, veterans and seniors or free to museum members.

Kirkpatrick novel selected for library author series

COOS BAY — The novel “A Light in the Wilderness,” by Jane Kirkpatrick, will be the featured book of the Title Wave program of the Coos County Library Service District.

Title Wave brings readers together with an outstanding northwest book and its author.

The celebration of Kirkpatrick’s writing continues when the author comes to Coos County in May for talks at public and school libraries.

Catch the Title Wave by reading “A Light in the Wilderness” and meet the author at the Dora Public Library on Thursday, May 21, at 6 p.m., or at the Coos Bay Public Library on Friday, May 22, at 7 p.m.

“A Light in the Wilderness” was published in September 2014. Kirkpatrick’s book is a very compelling read about the lives of three women who become allies on the long and dangerous journey along the Oregon Trail.

Publisher’s Weekly praised it, noting that “Kirkpatrick exercises her considerable gift for making history come alive in this real-life tale of a freed slave who travels across the country to the Oregon

Territory in the late 1840s.

“Kirkpatrick draws an indelible portrait of Letitia Carson, an African American woman who obtains her freedom and then determinedly makes her own way in an unsympathetic society.”

Kirkpatrick is the New York Times bestselling author of 25 books, including “A Sweetness to the Soul,” which won the Wrangler Award from the Western Heritage Center. Her works have been finalists for the Christy Award, Spur Award, One Books Award, and the Oregon Book Award.

“A Light in the Wilderness” is available for checkout at Coos County public libraries and Southwestern Oregon Community College Library.

It can be purchased at a discount at Books by the Bay.

For more information about Title Wave, visit www.cooslibraries.org. For more information about Jane Kirkpatrick, visit www.jkbooks.com.

Kirkpatrick’s visit is made possible by the Friends of the Library and Library Foundation groups of Coos County, the Coos County Library Service District, and Books by the Bay.