

## Silver Lining features Lin-Su watercolors

The Gallery Above the Silver Lining Boutique, 2217 Highway 101, will present one of Florence's outstanding local watercolorists, Lin-Su, for the entire month of May.

An artist's champagne and hors d'oeuvres reception will be held for Lin-Su May 14, from 3 to 5 p.m., during the Second Saturday Gallery Tour.

"Lin-Su has been creating masterful watercolor works for many years and is truly one of the most prolific artists that I have ever known," said Silver Lining Gallery owner Kimberly Fleenor. "Lin-Su lives inside a crayon box and views the world accordingly with fresh bright natural colors and a design only topped by Mother Nature herself."

Color has always been and continues to be her friend in Lin-Su's creative collection of natural land and sea scapes.

"Composition and light beam out of every pore in her body, and her brushstrokes represent the rhythms of the world," Fleenor said of Lin-Su's art. "The contrasts of dark and light are fascinating and completely captivating. Her



COURTESY PHOTO

**This and other watercolors by Lin-Su will be featured at The Gallery Above Silver Lining Boutique through May.**

playful and unabashed use of colors defies our preconceived notions of what the natural world is all about."

Lin-Su's works are full of life and love for the materials she works with and for the scenes that she chooses to depict. "One look at her paintings and you can tell just how much she loves and honors the palette of water colors she has at her disposal," said Fleenor.

Come enjoy Lin-Su's reception and meet the artist this Saturday.

"Her views of art and the pursuit of the depictions of nature will astound you and keep you interested in every single work," said Fleenor.

## New steampunk-themed exhibit opens at studio

Kenneth B Art Studios, located in Old Town Florence, has announced the re-opening of its contemporary art gallery with "PICT.up.ART," an exploration of "awkward nouveau steampunk expressionism" by local artists Giuliano Marchetti and Gigi Lissan.

This unique and compelling installation was curated by the artists themselves. The result is a successful integration of masterfully fabricated mixed metal montage sculpture by Giuliano and elegant wearable fine art by Lissan.

The exhibit opens Friday, May 13, and continues through Wednesday, July 27.

The gallery is open every second Saturday of the month, from 3 to 6 p.m., or by calling 541-999-5875.

Meet the artists and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres with live music by "The Door Jammers" of Eugene on Saturday, May 14, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Giuliano Marchetti, lead curator, is well known amongst regional steampunk artists, and has previously shown work at the Silver Lining Gallery in Florence and New Zone Gallery in Eugene.



COURTESY PHOTO

**An untitled work by artist Gigi Lissan on display as part of an exhibit at Kenneth B opening May 13.**

In PICT.up.ART, Marchetti exhibits several new pieces that feature his distinctive style of dark-edged symbolism in mixed metal media.

In the creation of his works, Giuliano utilizes a wide variety of found objects that range from used instruments and weathered machinery to deli-

cate household treasures.

Viewing this work is like imagining Tesla evoking a childhood dream. Its effect is eclectic, eccentric and most nearly scientific, and his works are consistently sensitive, creatively intelligent and visually complex.

Marchetti is an emerging

regional artist who's bold energy shifts typical steampunk genre art towards "awkward nouveau" — a delightful, awkward new evolution.

Additionally in this collaborative effort, Lissan, assistant curator, delivers the same artistic aesthetic expression by way of miniature high fashion in wearable art with her "Avec Le Temps" collection.

It is no easy task to bridge the art of jewelry craft and fine art, yet Lissan does this with creative flair. Her wearable works are comprised of found watch parts and various metallic bits and pieces often delicately accented with exquisite color.

In this exhibit, Lissan displays these wearable compositions in a uniquely designed bird cage, hauntingly adorned shadow frames filled with dolls and 2-dimensional paintings.

This portion of PICT.up.ART is elegantly feminine and mysteriously surreal.

The exhibit will be one of several for the new Kenneth B Art Studios, 1458 First St.

For a list of upcoming shows, visit [www.KennethBGallery.com](http://www.KennethBGallery.com).

## Oregon Connections online school to host info night May 19

Spring is a great time for Oregon families to consider new education options for their students, including virtual schooling.

Oregon Connections Academy (ORCA), the largest online public charter school in the state, has started the enrollment season for the 2016-17 school year.

The tuition-free public charter school, serving students in grades K-12 across Oregon, is hosting a free information session Thursday, May 19, in Florence for families interested in learning more about the school and

enrolling their children.

The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

An increasing number of parents are showing an interest in virtual education as an option for their students.

In 2015, there was a 15 percent increase in the number of requests for information about ORCA compared to the year before. Requests range from parents calling the school asking for information or attending one of the free in-person or online information sessions.

Families choose ORCA for a variety of reasons.

According to the school's most recent parent survey, 48 percent wanted a change from their local school; 46 percent required or wanted flexibility; 33 percent wanted a safer learning environment; and 25 percent of parents wanted more involvement with their child's education.

"We are very excited to meet new parents and students," said Allison Galvin, executive director of ORCA.

"The information sessions give us an opportunity to interact with families interested in enrolling their children in our wonderful school."

At information sessions, parents and students will have an opportunity to learn about the school's curriculum, and thoroughly explore the program.

They can also interact with school representatives and other prospective and currently enrolled families.

Families interested in learning more about Oregon Connections Academy's high-quality online program can also attend one of the following upcoming real-time online informational meetings with a parent or school representative:

- Tuesday, May 17, at 6:30 p.m.
  - Thursday, May 19, at noon
  - Monday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m.
  - Thursday, June 2, at 6:30 p.m.
- All sessions are one hour. For more details, visit

[www.OregonConnectionsAcademy.com/Events](http://www.OregonConnectionsAcademy.com/Events).

"Oregon Connections Academy offers a high-quality, personalized and flexible approach to education," explained Galvin. "Our goal is for students to realize both academic and emotional success when it comes to school. For many students, our virtual school and community offers a better learning environment than a traditional school."

"We are very proud of our highly qualified teaching staff, top-notch curriculum and technology tools."

In addition to in-person and online information sessions, parent-to-parent meetings are also available offering interested families the opportunity to speak with current school families in a more casual setting.

A complete schedule of information sessions and other events with dates and locations is available online at [www.OregonConnectionsAcademy.com/Events](http://www.OregonConnectionsAcademy.com/Events) or call 1-800-382-6010.

## FEC sea lion geocache Saturday

Geocachers will descend on Florence and along the central Oregon coast for the Dancing with Sea Lions Geocache Splash Off Saturday, May 14, beginning at 8 a.m. at the Florence Events Center.

This event is part of the events center's 20th anniversary celebration and their will be prizes included in the treasure hunt for commemorative coins.

For more information, go to [www.dancingwithsealions.com](http://www.dancingwithsealions.com) or [eventcenter.org](http://eventcenter.org).

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