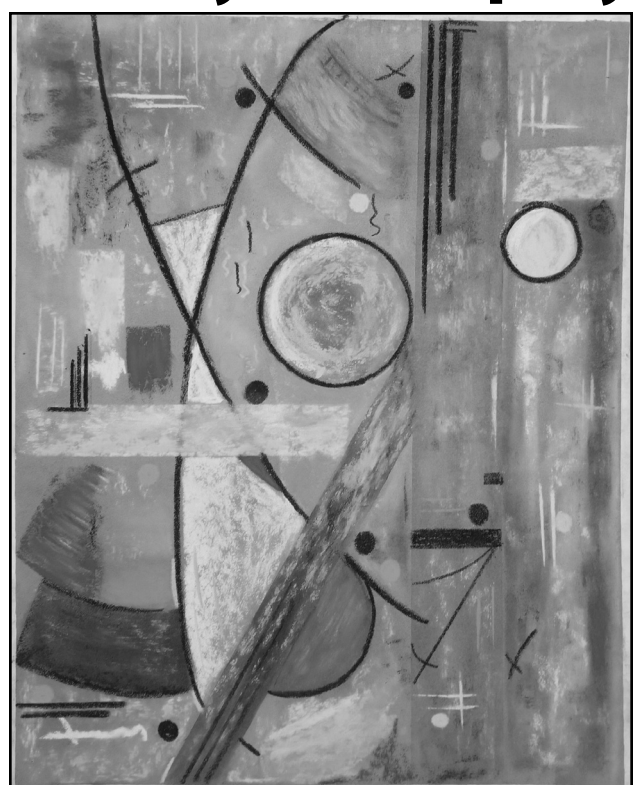


# Eclectic artistry on display at Florence Visitors Center

Stunning acrylic abstract paintings and her “Avec Le Temps” international jewelry collection are part of a new art exhibit by featured artist Gigi Lassan from The Studios at Jayne Smoley Design. In addition, Lassan’s art will be on display at the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center, 290 Highway 101, through June 1.

The Studios at Jayne Smoley Design, 1458 First St., regularly features Lassan’s art. Her jewelry collection can be seen at Bonjour Boutique, 1336 Bay St. in Historic Old Town Florence.

“It is such a pleasure to exhibit at the Visitors Center,” said Lassan. “People from all over the state, the country and even the world, stop in there every day. The chamber has done so much over the years to advance the talents of local artists and present them to locals and tourists alike.



I’m honored to be a part of it.”

According to Chamber President/CEO Bettina Hannigan, “The Studios has provided us many great artists’ exhibits in the past and we are excited to

show Gigi’s paintings and jewelry at our visitors center. She has such an arresting flair to her work, and I invite everyone to come appreciate such local talent — while wearing masks and with proper distanc-



**Lassan will display paintings and jewelry at the Florence Visitors Center through June 1.**

ing, of course.”

Raised in the South of France, Lassan moved to Los Angeles in 1978. She then founded “France Exchange School” where art was a large part of the curriculum and brought her L.A.’s “Family Choice Award.”

In 2014, Lassan and her husband Allen decided to escape Los Angeles and moved to Florence where she established her “atelier” (workshop). She divides her time between her paintings and her jewelry

collection, both of which have sold in France and the U.S.

Lassan’s paintings are often inspired by Sam Francis, Jackson Pollock, Kupka, Zao Wou-Ki and other impressionists.

“Sometimes shapes, lines, colors bounce around in my head and are often projected in my work, frequently based on geometric abstraction,” said Lassan.

For the past three decades, her intriguing jewelry collection “Avec Le

Temps” (With Time) has incorporated mechanical elements from clocks and broken or abandoned objects. She often mixes the old with the new in creating her imaginative one-of-a-kind wearable works of art.

For more information on Lassan and her work, visit [www.facebook.com/gislenegigliassan](http://www.facebook.com/gislenegigliassan).

To learn more about joining or volunteering with the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, visit [FlorenceChamber.com](http://FlorenceChamber.com).

## Apply now for Mapleton Community Foundation grants

Mapleton Community Foundation grant applications and guidelines for 2021 are available at the Mapleton and Deadwood Post Offices and at the Mapleton branch of the Siuslaw Public Library on

Thursdays from noon to 5 p.m.

The deadline for submission is May 7.

The following are the criteria for the grants:

- Funds are to be used to benefit students or res-

idents living within the Mapleton School District boundaries.

- Grant applicants must be a qualifying, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization.
- Funds will not be

awarded to individuals, or for operating expenses.

For more information or to receive an electronic copy of the application, contact Kathy West at 541-268-4665.

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# We Are Better Together

As we look to a new year, we’re celebrating what connects us as a community, and what we can do to bridge our divides. From virtual events and local perspectives to cultural insights and conversation starters, we invite you to join us in making our community better, together.

Help rebuild our economy by supporting these and other local businesses!

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[www.florencechamber.com](http://www.florencechamber.com)

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Florence, Oregon 97439  
541-997-3533

Florence Church of Christ  
1833 Tamarack St.  
Florence, Oregon 97439  
541-997-3133

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Florence, Oregon 97439  
541-997-6054

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541-997-1994

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[www.abelinsuranceagency.com](http://www.abelinsuranceagency.com)

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