



## Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum Exhibitions and Curriculum Guide – Fall 2019

### LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS:

\*Quality learning in the **visual arts** can take many forms and be exemplified by exposure to a range of media, processes, and artists throughout time.

\*Students effectively **listen and speak** in situations that serve different purposes and involve a variety of audiences.

\*Students develop **critical thinking skills** in understanding events and participating as consumers, decision makers, problem solvers, managers, and planners.

**ARTime** activities expand and enhance a tour visit with hands-on art making directly inspired by gallery artists. Call or email for an updated list of activities. \*\$3.50 per student

### BOOK A FREE TOUR!

For more information or to book a tour or *Artime* activity, please call or email: **480-644-6561**

[Mesacontemporaryarts@MesaAZ.gov](mailto:Mesacontemporaryarts@MesaAZ.gov)

### SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE!

We'd love to hear your students' response to our exhibitions. We appreciate **pictures and letters!** Please email:

[Mesacontemporaryarts@MesaAZ.gov](mailto:Mesacontemporaryarts@MesaAZ.gov)

A **Tour** of the galleries at Mesa Contemporary Arts provide students with experiences that connect to State Standards in areas like Math, Social Studies and Language Arts as well as the four basic concepts expressed in the Academic Standards in the Arts:

**Creating, Performing/Presenting/Producing, Responding and Connecting**

### *Flora & Fauna*

#### **Botanicals and Animals in Contemporary Art**

**Sept 13 – Jan 26, 2020**

**Main Gallery**

Flora and fauna refers to the Western art history classification for plant and animal life, with the exclusion of the human species. From bacteria to large land and sea mammals, this exhibition celebrates nature and its enduring influence in art. While many contemporary artists are instinctively drawn to various environments and the creatures that inhabit them, others are inspired by the climate change discourse and global movement to raise awareness about the human impact on the planet.

### *Photo Ark*

#### **Joel Sartore**

**Sept 13 – Nov 24, 2019**

**South Gallery**

The *National Geographic Photo Ark* is an ambitious project committed to documenting every species living in the world's zoos and wildlife sanctuaries—inspiring people not just to care, but also to help protect these animals for future generations. Featuring the work of National Geographic photographer and *Photo Ark* founder Joel Sartore, the exhibition will include twelve images from the *Photo Ark* as well as a few examples of Sartore's other work for *National Geographic* magazine, which feature the animals in the wild. The *Photo Ark* exhibition is organized and traveled by the National Geographic Society.

### *The Memory of Birds*

#### **Carol Eckert**

**Sept 13 – Jan 5, 2020**

**North Gallery**

Arizona artist Carol Eckert mines the iconography of mythology and art history, expanding and evolving a body of work that focuses on the resonant connections between humankind and the natural world. Ancient fables and allegories find their way into her art, along with references to cabinets of curiosity and 17th century still life paintings. Employing the simple textile process of coiling, Eckert constructs works layered with the complexities of mankind's response to nature.

### *Medieval Piñata*

#### **Roberto Benavidez**

**Sept 13 – Jan 12, 2020**

**SRP Gallery**

California sculptor Roberto Benavidez is known for his elaborate, fine art piñatas that play on themes of race, sexuality, art, sin, humor and beauty. Inspired by art history, Benavidez's latest work brings to life the fanciful creatures found in the whimsical marginalia found in various illuminated medieval manuscripts. The exhibition features several of Benavidez's enchanted sculptures as well as some new hybrids made from papier-mâché, crepe paper and wire.

**Biophilia**  
**Mary Meyer**

**Sept 13 – Jan 26, 2020**  
**Project Room**

Mary Meyer is an Arizona artist who specializes in mixed media sculpture and installations. Strongly influenced by a background in traditional stone carving, she uses meditative processes and materials to illustrate our physical kinship with the flora that surrounds us. In *Biophilia*, the installation carries hundreds of hand-built clay seed and leaf abstractions that beckon the viewer to pause, be present and recognize themselves within these humble constructs of nature.

**The following are targeted Arizona's College and Career Ready Standards and Arizona Academic Standards that correspond to our current exhibitions and *ArTime* activities.**

**VISUAL ARTS**

**VA.RE.7.3a:** Use art-specific vocabulary to speculate about processes an artist used to create a work of art. **3b:** Determine messages communicated by an image.

**VA.PR.9.4:** Evaluate an artwork based on given criteria.

**VA.PR.9.5:** Recognize differences in criteria used to evaluate works of art depending on styles, genres, and media.

**VA.RE.7.7:** Cite specific evidence from an artwork and relevant evidence from the context to support an interpretation of the mood, message or meaning of that artwork.

**VA.RE.8.8:** Create a convincing and logical argument to support an evaluation of art by citing both evidence visible in the artwork and published verbal information about the artwork or about the artist who made it.

**VA.RE.8:HS Proficient:** Interpret an artwork or collection of works, supported by relevant and sufficient evidence found in the work and its various contexts.

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

**P3-8SL.1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on *topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**6-8.L.6:** Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

**9-12.SL.1:** Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners on *grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.

**P3-8SL.1:** Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

**MATH**

**4.MP.7:** Look for and make use of structure.

**4.G.A.3:** Recognize a line of symmetry for a two-dimensional figure as a line across the figure such that the figure can be folded along the line into matching parts. Identify line-symmetric figures and draw lines of symmetry.

**4.G.A.1:** Draw points, lines, line segments, rays, angles (right, acute, obtuse), and perpendicular and parallel lines. Identify these in two-dimensional figures.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**S1:C1:PO3:** Use primary source material and secondary source materials to study people and events from the past.

**S4:C4:PO4:** Discuss elements of cultural of a community in areas studied.

**SCIENCE**

**S4:C4.L1U1.5:** Develop and use models to explain that plants and animals (including humans) have internal and external structures that serve various functions that aid in growth, survival, behavior, and reproduction.

**S4:C4.L4U1.11:** Analyze and interpret environmental data demonstrate that species either adapt and survive, or go extinct over time.

**ArTime Standards:**

**VISUAL ARTS**

**VA.CR.1.3a:** Create an imaginative artwork and add details.

**VA.CR.2.3a:** Create artwork using a variety of artistic processes, materials, and approaches.

**VA.CR.2.4a:** Develop technical skills and explore art-making approaches.

**VA.CR.1.5a:** Combine ideas to generate an innovative idea for art-making.

**VA.CR.3.a.6:** Demonstrate openness in trying new ideas, materials, methods, and approaches in making works of art and design.

**VA.CN.3.7:** Reflect on and explain important information about personal artwork in an artist statement or another format.

**AV.CR.2.8c c:** Select, organize, and design images and words to make visually clear and compelling presentations.