PRESS RELEASE
MUSCATINE ART CENTER
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 2, 2020

ART CENTER TO HOST FREE CREATIVE SESSIONS THIS YEAR

Collaboration with Living Proof Exhibit continues with several sessions planned

MUSCATINE, Iowa – The Muscatine Art Center will present a series of free creative sessions this year in collaboration with Living Proof Exhibit.

Living Proof Exhibit is a non-profit that provides the therapeutic benefits of the arts to cancer patients, survivors, families, and caregivers. The Muscatine Art Center and Living Proof Exhibit began its partnership in 2017.

The partnership continues to grow with the Muscatine Art Center hosting the fall 2019 juried exhibition, "A Visualization of Hope", with the works of over 30 cancer survivors represented.

Even more collaboration is on the calendar for 2020 starting with the Art Center hosting Living Proof Exhibit's free Creative Sessions this spring. There will be more to come this summer and fall including new sessions of bi-lingual vocal music-based programs to compliment the free studio classes offered.

As a result the Muscatine community has access to more Creative Sessions that introduce another coping tool to those impacted by cancer. By offering these free sessions, the Muscatine Art Center and Living Proof Exhibit are using the arts to reduce the stress of a cancer diagnosis.

"Our partnership with the Muscatine Art Center was prompted by having Muscatine residents drive to the Quad Cities to participate in the Creative Sessions," Pamela Crouch, Executive Director of Living Proof Exhibit, said. "We are growing our outreach in Muscatine to meet the needs of the community. The new bi-lingual programs will make the benefits of the arts available to the entire community."

March 12: Uniting Through Words and Music

Muscatine native Juan Carlos Mendoza will guide participants in exercises designed to unite us through words and music from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, in the Muscatine Art Center's Music Room. Participants come together to share meaningful music and poetry where personal experiences are shared through learning, singing songs, and reading poetry. This bi-lingual program is a new type of Creative Session and will be offered again this fall. Singing and/or speaking is not required to participate.

Mark Your Calendars For Upcoming 2020 Creative Session Dates:
o *May 14: Bookmaking with Brian Allen*
o *June 11: Mandala on Canvas with Terre Klipsch*
o *September 10: Uniting Through Words and Music (Bi-Lingual) with Juan Carlos Mendoza*
o *October 15: Mixed Media Collage with Gina Kirschbaum*
o *November 12: Uniting Through Words and Music (Bi-Lingual) with Juan Carlos Mendoza*

Admission to these programs is free and open to cancer survivors, patients, and families touched by cancer. The Muscatine Art Center is located at 1314 Mulberry Avenue, Muscatine, Iowa.

Visit www.muscatineartcenter.org for more information about programs and events and to download a class brochure.

ABOUT THE ART CENTER - The Muscatine Art Center is located at 1314 Mulberry Avenue in Muscatine, Iowa. Hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Thursday evenings until 7:00 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Donations are appreciated. Visit www.muscatineartcenter.org for more information about programs and events and to download a class brochure. Please contact Melanie Alexander, Muscatine Art Center Director, with any questions about upcoming programs at 563-263-8282 or by email at malexander@muscatineiowa.gov.

ART CENTER SPRING SCHEDULE (PDF)