

News Release | For Immediate Release

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OSU MUSEUM OF ART INTRODUCES SUMMER EXHIBITIONS, FIRST SEASON OF MALINDA BERRY FISCHER GALLERY PROGRAMMING

(STILLWATER, Okla., June 9, 2014) — The Oklahoma State University Museum of Art is pleased to introduce two new exhibitions this summer in the Postal Plaza Gallery. Both exhibitions, opening on June 16, highlight the work of artists with a connection to Oklahoma State University and will be featured together in the Malinda Berry Fischer Gallery at the Postal Plaza.

To honor Malinda Berry Fischer's dedication to and advocacy for the arts, as well as her deep roots in Stillwater, the OSU Foundation and the OSU Museum of Art have teamed up to provide a dedicated gallery space inside the Postal Plaza Gallery. Every summer, this space will feature engaging exhibitions with a regional flair or local connection.

Belinda Chlouber – Words and Paint: A Collaboration with Family Writings highlights the work of California-based artist Belinda Chlouber, who graduated from high school in Stillwater, Okla., while her mother worked at Oklahoma State University. Her body of artwork includes a variety of paintings and monoprints that incorporate or are inspired by the poetry and short stories of her mother and grandfather.

After her mother's death, Chlouber discovered a trove of poetry that has allowed her to collaborate with her mother in a way she never did while she was alive. The discovery was redoubled when she found poetry by her grandfather in a 1935 Varsity notebook that had been hidden for more than 70 years. Since then, Chlouber has used script, thread, and paint to reweave the past and demonstrate its current, otherwise unseen, persistence in the present.

"As I look toward the future, learning from and understanding the past has enabled me as an artist to find my own path," Chlouber said.

Words and Paint: A Collaboration with Family Writings will showcase more than 15 pieces by Chlouber, displayed alongside poems and family writing. The exhibition is on view

from June 16 through Aug. 30, with an opening reception on June 19 from 5 - 7 pm. The reception will include an artist talk at 6 pm.

Watercolor Paintings by Althea Wright, also on view in the Malinda Berry Fischer Gallery, features the work of a Stillwater-based artist and former Oklahoma State University faculty member. Wright taught in the Department of Family Relations and Child Development for 20 years.

Following her retirement, she began to pursue watercolor painting. Having always been involved with sewing, interior decorating, and other creative pursuits, Wright has begun to exploring painting only in the recent years. Many of her pieces are inspired by the beauty of nature.

Wright's work on a four foot by four foot fiberglass butterfly (a fundraiser for Wings of Hope) can be seen on Main Street in downtown Stillwater. Wright is also very active in the Stillwater community, belonging to the Stillwater Art Guild, Stillwater Community Singers, and the OSU Emeriti Faculty Board.

Watercolor Paintings by Althea Wright is open from June 16 through Aug. 30, with a reception on July 10 from 5 - 7 pm. The reception will include an artist talk at 6 pm.

For more information about the OSU Museum of Art and upcoming programming at the Postal Plaza Gallery, visit <u>http://www.museum.okstate.edu</u> or call 405-744-2780. The Postal Plaza Gallery is located at 720 S. Husband Street in downtown Stillwater. All exhibitions and programs are free and public parking is located on the south and east sides of the building.