

ART TALK

Ruston Artists displayed in Annual Juried Competition

The Masur Museum of Art showcases seven Ruston artists in the 58th Annual Juried Competition.

This year 204 artist applied from 39 states. Of that group, 51 artists were selected by this year's juror, Kelli Morgan, an independent curator, author, educator, and social justice activist.

Louisiana Tech School of Design Master of Fine Arts students Jacob Moffett, Jennifer Robison, and Paul Trichel have their work on display along with Ruston artists Dean Dablow, Frank Hamrick, Phillip LeBlanc, and Donna McGee.

These seven artists are among the nine Louisiana artists represented in the show.

First started in 1964, when famed Louisiana artist Ida Kohlmeyer won an award to have her painting purchased



Submitted photos
Artworks by Jacob Moffett (left) and Jennifer Robison (right) along with other Ruston artists are on display in the Masur Museum's 58th Annual Juried Competition.

as the first addition to the Masur Museum's permanent collection, the Annual Juried Competition is the Masur Museum's longest-running tradition and one

of its best-reviewed exhibitions each year.

The show is on view through May 8 at the Northeast Louisiana Delta African American Heritage Museum,

1051 Chennault Park Drive, Monroe LA 71203, due to ongoing construction at the Masur Museum. To visit the exhibition at the Northeast Louisiana Delta

African American Heritage Museum, you must wear a face covering as per the CDC guidelines, maintain proper social distancing of 6 feet, keep your hands clean

and sanitized, and stay home if you are sick.

The Masur Museum will host a virtual Zoom reception with Juror's Talk and Prize Announcements on at 5:30 p.m. March 12.

This year's cash prizes total in \$3,200. Winner of the Best in Show award receives \$1,000, and visitors will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite artwork to win the \$200 People's Choice Award.

Links to the reception can be found on the Masur Museum social media pages, calling 318-329-2237, or emailing info@masur-museum.org.

For the duration of this exhibition, on-site and virtual tours will also be available by contacting the Masur Museum.

This article was submitted by the North Central Louisiana Arts Council.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Early voting begins Saturday

Early voting for the March 20 special election for 5th District Congressman, mayor of Dubach and the Lincoln Parish Sheriff's Office property tax renewal begins Saturday and continues through March 13, except Sunday.

Voting hours are 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Lincoln Parish Registrar of Voters Office, located at 100 West Texas Ave. in Ruston.

Voters should bring a valid photo ID. Voters will enter the courthouse through the ground

floor door on the Vienna Street side of the building.

Interstate 20 lane closures

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development advises motorists that beginning today, there will be intermittent nightly lane closures on Interstate 20 eastbound at mile marker 103 near the village of Calhoun in Ouachita Parish.

These nightly lane closures are scheduled to take place from approximately 8 p.m. to 6 a.m., and are anticipated to last until

April 30.

The lane closures are necessary to allow for continued construction on the US 80 overpass replacement project in Calhoun.

La. Hwy. 823 closed

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development advises motorists that La. Hwy. 823 from La. Hwy. 151 to the Union Parish line in Lincoln Parish is closed due to flooding over the roadway.

The DOTD reminds motorists to never drive around barricades with road closed signed at any time for any reason.

CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

Today

Gloria Tippet
Bettye Ellis

Saturday

Lillie Jackson, 81

Sunday

Lois Dunn
James (Aba) Smith, 73
Brendan Hood, 17
Eddie A. Franklin, 75

Monday

Sallie Evans

Tuesday

Bert Pipes, 89
Pamela Kennedy, 69

Wednesday

Delainey Marsh

Mar. 14

Virginia Peterson, 69

Mar. 19

Dyquan Roberts

To have a celebration published call 255-4353 at least three days prior. Celebrations run as space allows.

SENSE & SENSITIVITY

Reader considers charging friends for using apartment

DEAR HARRIETTE: I live in the heart of Atlanta (close to the airport) in a small apartment. When my friends fly into the city for the weekend, they will usually ask to stay at my home, even though my space is small and it will inconvenience me.

I am seriously considering charging them to stay at my place as often as they do; for obvious reasons, I am hesitant to ask.

My friends live in D.C., LA and Florida, so their flights will often connect in Atlanta.

I understand that it's convenient for them, but I would feel more comfortable if they paid to use my space and amenities. Do you think this is too extreme? What would you suggest I do?

Hartsfield Hotel

DEAR HARTSFIELD HOTEL: Rather than requiring that your friends pay you for the privilege of staying at your home, which could ring wrong, just tell them no.

"No" is a complete sentence. You do not have to agree to serve as a hotel for your friends. Instead, you can welcome them to visit you occasionally when the

purpose of their visit is to be with YOU.

If they say that they really can't afford to stay at a hotel and they want to come there and spend time during their layover, explain that it is inconvenient for you — and costly.

If they continue to press, this is when you can request some kind of fee for replenishing your amenities and cleaning your house. That seems fair.

DEAR HARRIETTE: My girlfriend's firm belief in certain conspiracy theories is starting to make me resent her. She and I have been together for about a year now; when we first met, COVID-19 was just beginning to spread. She told me at the height of

the pandemic that she thought the virus was caused by 5G phone signals (which is ridiculous), and at first I would laugh it off.

Now, a year later, I've lost two relatives and a close friend to COVID.

She still insists that COVID is some sort of conspiracy, even after watching me grieve because of it.

Her theories are offensive and harmful, and I don't know how to approach the situation without causing a huge fight. How should I approach this? I don't want us to break up.

COVID Conspiracy

DEAR COVID CONSPIRACY: You need to have a real and raw conversation with your girlfriend.



By Harriette Cole

Apart from her conspiracy theory beliefs, she has shown herself to be insensitive to you and your family's losses. Tell her that this hurts your feelings and has to stop.

Further, point out that her extreme views make you uncomfortable.

You can agree to talk about anything with your girlfriend, but I encourage you both to

do your research and come with fact-based information, not oft-repeated theories.

There is a lot of research out there about COVID-19, what it is and how it affects human beings.

You may want to share what you have learned with her, from reputable sources. But in the end, you will have to decide if you can

live with someone who fundamentally doesn't share your values.

Sometimes things can be overlooked — not always.

Harriette Cole is a lifestyle and founder of DREAMLEAPERS, an initiative to help people access and activate their dreams. You can send questions to askharriette@harriettecole.com.

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