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ARTS INSIGHTS: THOMAS LEEK: FOUNDER OF BRAITHWAITE FINE ARTS GALLERY

(Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah) The SUU Department of Art and Design will feature Thomas Leek, a Utah watercolorist, in this week's *Art Insights*, Thursday, September 18th at 7:00pm in the Centrum Arena. His paintings show vivid masterpieces of the landscapes. Using drastic colors and soft brush strokes, Leek captures the feeling of the atmosphere. Thomas Leek's paintings are represented in numerous public, corporate and private collections, including around SUU campus. Thomas Leek founded the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery and taught at SUU for several years.

Thomas Leek has taught design, drawing, painting, printmaking, art history and art education at the Southern Utah University for twenty-two years and served as department chairman for fourteen years. After educating students at SUU, Weber State University and University of Utah, he spends his time painting in Northern Utah.

The Braithwaite Fine Art Gallery opened in January 1976; named after Dr. Royden C. Braithwaite, President of the College at the time. The Gallery offers the campus and community an exceptional venue for internationally touring exhibitions as well as work by students, faculty, and local artists of Utah. The Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery is supported in part by the Friends of the Braithwaite Gallery, The Utah Arts Council, with funding from the State of Utah and the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Art Insights is a weekly program hosted during the Fall and Spring semesters by the Art and Design faculty. In *Art Insights* students and community members meet weekly to attend gallery openings and experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights. Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend.

Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend. For more information on SUU College of Performing and Visual Arts events, please call the Arts Hotline at 435.865.8800 or visit

www.suu.edu/arts

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The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of the departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, and a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespearean Festival, the performance group Acclamation, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company.

The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. Over 550 students are majoring in 16 different degree areas in the arts. Both liberal arts B.A. and B.S. degrees are offered, as well four professional degrees: Bachelor of Music (B.M.); Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in

Studio Art, Graphic Design, and Arts Education; and the B.F.A. in Theatre. The College's Art and Design, Music, and Dance programs are nationally accredited. More than 60 full and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring students in their pursuit of a degree in the arts. The College

regularly enrolls 1100 students each semester in over 195 classes on the SUU campus. For more

information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean 435-865-

8561 or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.