

SUU COLLEGE of PERFORMING
and VISUAL ARTS

BRAITHWAITE

FINE ARTS GALLERY

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**Southern Utah Museum of Art
Celebrates 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act
With Special Exhibition, “Wild Perspectives”**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The inspirational power of Southern Utah’s wilderness areas has long been captured by artists in a variety of medium. Southern Utah University’s Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery is showcasing the “wilderness” as depicted by acclaimed regional artists in a special exhibition commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The staffs of SUU’s Outdoor Engagement Center and the Gallery are collaborating on ***Wild Perspectives: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act***, a special show of 2D artwork focusing on Southern Utah’s wilderness areas. The exhibition will be displayed in the **Hunter Conference Center** from **November 5, 2014-January 31, 2015, Monday through Friday, 10am-5pm**. The exhibition opens with a free special presentation and reception on **Wednesday, November 5** beginning at **6pm**.

With this exhibition, artists had a chance to explore wilderness areas and celebrate the Wilderness Act through the creation of their own artwork, inspired by the spirit of the wilderness, that shares appreciation and inspiration from these unique landscapes in a variety of medium including photography, pastels, oils and more. Participating artists in Wild Perspectives include **Arlene Braithwaite, Kirt Brown, Fran Bryson, J. Calhoun, Elayna Clegg, Jim Cook, Megumi Dold, Carol Foster, Jan Hansen, Michael Kruse, David Pettit, Ray Pittman, Debbie Robb, Deanna Scanlon, Chauncey Secrist, Sabrina Squires, Bessann Swanson and Katherine Villard.**

Beginning at 6pm on November 5, the opening presentation in the Hunter Conference Center’s Gilbert Great Hall opens with “Wilderness Perspectives,” given by Chris Barns, Bureau of Land Management Representative, while acclaimed regional pastel artist Arlene Braithwaite offers “An Artist’s Perspective on Wilderness.” Light refreshments will follow the presentation.

Chris Barns is the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Representative at the Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center and staff to the BLM. Chris came to the Carhart Center in 1999 after serving almost 9 years as the lead of the Wilderness, Recreation and Paleontology programs for the Bureau of Land Management's Farmington Office in northwest New Mexico, where he was responsible for the day-to-day management of the Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness. Prior to that, he worked for the National Park Service at Zion, Isle Royale and Lassen Volcanic National Parks. Prior to that, Chris was a professional theatre director for seventeen years. While with the BLM, Chris drafted wilderness legislation which was enacted in 1996, and coordinated the planning exercise at the 6th National Wilderness Conference that resulted in the four agencies' Wilderness Strategic Plan -- 1995, for which he was the lead author. Chris worked on development of BLM wilderness policy and has written on topics as broad as the direction of the National Wilderness Preservation system, as narrow as paleontological research in wilderness, and is one of the co-authors of Monitoring Selected Conditions Related to Wilderness Character: A National Framework. He has taught interpretation for the NPS and BLM, is the author of the video Isle Royale's Wildflowers -- an introduction, wrote and directed the documentary film American Values: American Wilderness, and currently serves as an active member of the Wilderness.net Working Group. Chris was graduated cum laude from Cornell University, went through the M.F.A. program of theatre at Penn State, and received an M.S. from the University of Minnesota's College of Natural Resources.

Pastel painter **Arlene Braithwaite** earned her Masters degree from the University of Utah. Her pastel paintings have been shown in solo exhibitions at the Springville Art Museum, the St. George Art Museum, the Utah Museum of Natural History and Zion National Park's Museum of Human History. Her work has been published in the magazines "Pastel Journal" and "International Artist" and Poulton and Swanson's book "Painter's of Utah's Canyons and Deserts" and Olpin's "Artists of Utah." Additional recognition has come through first place and director's awards in statewide and regional exhibitions. Her pastels have twice been selected as Grand Prize winners at the Escalante Canyon Plein Air Art Festival. In 2011 she won the People's Choice Award and a Purchase Award at the Zion National Park Plein Air Invitational. To build interest in painting on location Arlene taught workshops for the Utah Art Education Association, Southern Utah University and Snow Canyon State Park. Before committing to full time painting, Braithwaite enjoyed a 32-year career as an art educator at Southern Utah University where she was awarded the University's "Distinguished Educator" Award. Arlene was also recognized as "Art Teacher of the Year for the State of Utah" by the National Art Education Association.

For specific information and maps for each Wilderness area, please visit
<http://www.wilderness.net/NWPS/stateView?state=UT>

For more information about The Wilderness Act, please visit
http://www.wilderness50th.org/events.php?useraction=view_list

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and the artists who capture its real beauty. Don't miss ***Wild Perspectives***. Information about the show can be obtained by calling the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery at 435-586-5432 (Tue-Sat, noon-7pm) or visiting www.suu.edu/pva/artgallery.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: WILD PERSPECTIVES, CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

WHAT: The inspirational power of Southern Utah's wilderness areas has long been captured by artists in a variety of medium. SUU's Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery showcases the "wilderness" as depicted by acclaimed regional artists in an exhibition commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act. ***Wild Perspectives: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act*** features 2D artwork focusing on Southern Utah's wilderness areas.

WHO: Southern Utah University, Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery

WHEN: November 5, 2014 – January 31, 2-15

TIME: Mon–Fri, 10am-5pm, except holidays, school breaks
Opening presentation and reception: Wed. Nov. 5 @ 6pm

WHERE: SUU's Hunter Conference Center, Second Floor

PRICES: Free and the General Public is encouraged to attend.

MORE INFO: <http://www.suu.edu/pva/artgallery/>