



For Immediate Release: 9/18/14

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SUU's SUMA Community Engagement Committee Offers Autumn Art Hike Combining Ceramics and Geology Saturday, October 4, 2014

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: The unique landscape of southern Utah, rich with clay deposits, is the foundation for the final 2014 Southern Utah Museum of Art Hike. For the first time an Art Hike has been developed in conjunction with an exhibition at SUU's Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, specifically **50 from 6: Contemporary Ceramic Art from Six Rocky Mountain States**. For its autumn 2014 Art Hike, the **SUMA Community Engagement Committee** merges science with art for **Clay**, led by **Dr. Johnny MacLean**, SUU Assistant Professor of Geology, and ceramicist **Rachelle Bonnett**. The hike will be to clay deposits in Parowan Canyon area.

Scheduled for **Saturday, October 4**, the hike begins at **9am** on the east side of **Main Street Park in Cedar City**. This will be an easy hike of about one mile. MacLean will talk about how the earth forms clay while Bonnett describes how it evolves into pottery. Though free, the number of hikers is limited, so **a reservation is required**. To reserve a place, please contact the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery at **gallery@suu.edu** or call **435-586-5432**, **Tue-Sat, noon-7pm**. The **Art Hikes** have been created by the **Southern Utah Museum of Art's (SUMA) Community Engagement Committee** to build public awareness for the museum scheduled to open in 2016.

Dr. Johnny MacLean, a professor of geology at SUU since 2010, uses his professional background in the environmental consulting industry and the oil and gas industry to provide authentic learning opportunities for geology students. Such learning opportunities often involve SUU's local setting near the fabulous geologic exposures of the American Southwest. Fieldwork has become an integral part of geology majors' experience, and MacLean couldn't be happier about it. He holds degrees from the University of Montana, Syracuse University, and Furman University.

Rachelle Bonnett completed a BFA in Studio Art at New Mexico Highlands University; and is currently working towards an MFA in Arts Administration at Southern Utah University. She grew up in Southeast Alaska, which profoundly affected her view of the natural world, sense of adventure, and fuels her personal creativity. With a background in visual arts, her biggest inspiration as an artist has been recreating experiences, connections, and nostalgia of place. She enjoys working with ceramics, sculpture, and mixed media; while dabbling here and there with painting and photography.

SUMA Art Hikes have been created to provide an opportunity for the southern Utah community to discover the locales where artists gain inspiration. Participants will hike with the artist as well as a representative from the Public Lands such as the National Park Service, the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management or Utah Division of Natural Resources who will educate and enlighten the hikers about these locales.

Sponsored by **The Friends of the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery**, *50 from 6: Contemporary Ceramic Art from Six Rocky Mountain States* runs **September 25 through November 8** at the Gallery in the Braithwaite Building on the SUU campus. Exhibition hours are Tue-Sat, noon-7pm and the show is free and open to the public.

To make a contribution to the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), please contact Donna Law, Director of Development: CPVA, at 435-865-8182 or law@suu.edu. Contributions can be made online at www.suu.edu/pva/suma.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration and the Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean at (435) 865-8561, or by email at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: SUMA AUTUMN ART HIKE” “CLAY” TO PAROWAN CANYON

WHAT: The unique landscape of southern Utah rich with clay deposits is the foundation for the final 2014 Southern Utah Museum of Art Hike. For the first time an Art Hike has been developed in

conjunction with an exhibition at SUU's Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery specifically *50 from 6: Contemporary Ceramic Art from Six Rocky Mountain States*.

- WHO:** SUMA, Southern Utah Museum of Art, Community Engagement Committee
- WHEN:** Saturday, October 4, 2014
- TIME:** 9am in Cedar City, UT
- WHERE:** East Side of Main Street Park, Cedar City, UT
- TICKETS:** Free and open to the public. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Reservations are required; call the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery at (435) 586-5432 (Tues-Sat, noon-7pm) or send an email to galleries@suu.edu.
- INFO:** For detailed info and requirements, call (435) 586-5432 or visit www.suu.edu/pva/suma