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## Art Gallery at Wilder hosts a lively exhibition in March



Photo courtesy Bill Carmel

Artist John Barry demonstrates trAction painting at the Lafayette Art and Wine Festival.

By Sora O'Doherty

The art gallery at Wilder Art & Garden Center will be returning to some in-person events this month. The featured artist for March, Bill Carmel, will be honored at a reception on Sunday, March 6 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Although the gallery is still generally closed to the public owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be in-person viewings, which can be arranged by emailing curator Aniston Breslin at wildergallery@lamorindaarts.org. The exhibition at the Wilder gallery will include work from

public art projects done with community partners. The pieces entitled "Festival Wheelies" were done with Danville artist John Barry, creator of the trAction painting process. The work was painted during the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival by dipping Barry's rollerblades in paint, then making lines and marks on canvas. (Barry ex-

plains his technique in a Youtube video, at <https://youtu.be/Dn0hloFNWDM>) Another piece on display in March is Carmel's Veil Tapestry, which was created by asking people to paint sacred words on a large traveling canvas. For more information, visit [www.lamorindaarts.org/current-exhibits-wilder/](http://www.lamorindaarts.org/current-exhibits-wilder/)

## Orinda library gallery features High School Visual Arts Competition

The 19th Annual High School Visual Arts Competition, hosted by the Lamorinda Arts Council, will be live in the Orinda library gallery during the month of March. There will be an awards ceremony, open to the public, on Thursday, March 10 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the gallery. Cash awards and merit citations will be presented to artists in four categories for this juried show. The categories are 2D: painting, drawing, printmaking, mixed media, collage; 3D: ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, construction; photography: traditional film and digital photography; and the Lamorinda Arts Alliance digital art category, which is for two-dimensional artwork that is produced or manipulated on a computer platform and then printed on paper, canvas or other material.

The competition is open to students who live in or attend public or private high schools in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda. The exhibition will continue to be displayed virtually on the Lamorinda Arts Council's website from April 2022 to April 2023. For further information visit [www.lamorindaarts.org/vac](http://www.lamorindaarts.org/vac) or call (925) 359-4490. - S. O'Doherty

## OUSD breaks ground on new multi-purpose room at Sleepy Hollow Elementary



Photo Sora O'Doherty

From left: OUSD Facilities Director Stuart House, Board Member Jason Kaune, Board Member Cara Hoxie, Superintendent Aida Glimme, Board Vice President Hillary Weiner, Board Member Liz Daoust, Board President Carol Brown, Principal Patsy Templeton and OUSD Director of Business Services Regina Webber.

By Sora O'Doherty

On a sunny Valentine's Day morning, the Orinda Union School District broke ground to start building a new multi-purpose room at Sleepy Hollow Elementary School. The new building was conceived in response to a plan by Moraga-Orinda Fire District Chief David Winnacker to provide a fire-resistant building where students and staff could shelter in the event of a wildfire. Another

part of that plan was the installation in 2019 of a 10,000-gallon water tank, which would enable a fire engine to pump water over the building while a fire passed through the area. The 7,000 square foot state-of-the-art building will provide space for physical education, school assemblies, lunch and performances, and features large roll-up doors to provide for indoor-outdoor events. It is expected that the building will be ready for use by Aug. 1, 2023.

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