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Sitka Center for Art and Ecology Monthly e-Newsletter

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>> Director's Notes



In June, the tips of the Sitka Spruce tree extend outwards with soft green needles. They feel like a feather paintbrush against the skin. Over the course of the next few months, these soft tender

needles will harden.... much like we as people harden as we age, our soft baby skin giving way to a tougher shell.

I've been wondering lately if my tough outer layer serves me. Perhaps a softening is what we need, softening our emotional skin, softening our protective defenses against the forces of change that seem rallied against us. What would happen if we invited the change?

In art, we sometimes find great benefit to softening the edges, blurring the lines and letting our imaginations stretch out in new directions. The maker of the art, much like the teacher of students, gets to really learn from the experience.

That's why we keep inviting you to come make art with us. So you can discover new sides of your creative self. Find those soft, new needles that come from new growth within yourself. We stand ready to learn along side you.

-Eric

>> Workshop Openings



Joy Makes Poems

with Jennifer Boyden and Heather Swan
7/15 to 7/17

Summertime & poetry seem to go in-hand. Come write poetry! You'll be using published poems as a jumping off point and then for 3-days, you'll experiment, invent, and discuss poetry. Also, you'll receive a packet of poems, prompts, and tools for editing your work.



Nature as Teacher, Meeting the True Muse

with Jennifer Lauck
7/26 to 7/27

Does this image conjure up memories of special times with friends or family? Have you considered capturing those memories in writing but had trouble figuring out where to begin? Jennifer is here to guide you in writing your life story.

Jennifer Lauck is an award winning journalist and the author of the *New York Times* bestseller "**Blackbird.**"



Painting and Weaving the Warped "Canvas"

with Kate Boyes
8/6 to 8/7

Treat the warp as your canvas as you paint designs on it with non-toxic dyes and then experiment with different colors and types of weft yarn. If you're new to weaving, don't worry, Kate will cover basic weaving techniques, too. You'll take home a finished scarf, table runner, or wall hanging.



Watercolor Pencil Iris

with Patricia Schmidt
8/10

Patricia's teaching style offers a step-by-step process for learning watercolor and watercolor pencil painting techniques. You'll also learn to work with "gold" leaf for a glowing background creating an Old World look. By the end of the day, you'll have a painting that's almost finished and will know how to put the finishing touches on it.

Patricia's work will be featured in the new "**Splash 12**" and here are more of her Sitka workshops:

Watercolor Poppy 8/8

Watercolor Geranium 8/9

Watercolor Mixing Techniques 9/10 to 9/11

>> Mingle, Muse and Munch

Mingle, Muse and Munch

July 15th, Friday 4:30 pm - 7 pm

Featured Writer: **Jennifer Boyden and Heather Swan**

Writers'/artists' talk and potluck series -- join us for a free series of presentations by visiting artists and writers, followed by a community potluck. A wildly different topic each month - don't miss them! Potluck starts at 4:30 pm and presentation begins at 5:30 pm.



>> Big Summer Fun



Come to Sitka for some Big Summer Fun!

Sept. 3rd, Saturday (Labor Day Weekend)
11:30 am to 10 pm

Join us for a relaxing day of food, music, friends and a good-sized portion of camaraderie.

Guest speaker, Oregon Poet Laureate Paulann Petersen, will talk about the importance of place, surrounded by the unique environment of Cascade Head.

Purchase Tickets - \$45 includes: delicious lunch, speaker, afternoon activities, and potluck dinner with music.

More details about all the events happening at Sitka this year!

>> Sitka Community News

Chris Nau, 2008 Jordan Schnitzer Printmaking Resident, is headed to Oslo, Norway to install one of his large wall-cut drawings. For more information, click here.

David Wagner, 1989 Artist-in-Residence, is working on a touring exhibition called *America's Parks Through the Beauty of Art*. Artists interested in participating should email David.



>> 2011 Art Invitational Updates



The 2011 Sitka Art Invitational, **November 5th & 6th in Portland**, is beginning to take shape as we work with artists, sponsors, and volunteers.

To view all the dates & details, click here.

Dining with the Art, November 4th - prepare to be dazzled by a series of performance art pieces that will challenge and excite you while

you dine surrounded by the artwork of 120 artists, many of whom are brand new to the Sitka Invitational this year.

Please consider joining us as a business sponsor. There are sponsorship options open at several levels and they provide a great opportunity to lend your business' name to an event that has no equal in the art world!

To discuss further, please email [Rebecca Welti](mailto:Rebecca.Welti@sitkacenter.org) or call her at 541-994-5485.



Sitka Center for Art and Ecology

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