

HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

W I L D L I F E *and* L I V I N G H I S T O R Y

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Friday, March 18, 2016
CONTACT: Damian Fagan, communications manager
541-382-4754 ext. 300, dfagan@highdesertmuseum.org

CALL TO ARTISTS ANNOUNCED BY THE HIGH DESERT MUSEUM Now accepting submissions for *Art of the West* exhibition

Bend, OR--The High Desert Museum is now accepting entries for this year's *Art of the West* exhibition and silent auction. This fundraising event features fine art depictions of the western region of the U.S. by contemporary artists. *Art of the West* complements the Museum's annual High Desert Rendezvous gala. "Last year's exhibition was very well-received and featured unique works of art from a diverse group of artists," said Faith Brower, the Museum's curator of exhibitions and collections.



The selected works will be on exhibit from July 22-September 11 in the Museum's Brooks Gallery. Members and guests may bid on pieces during this period or buy them outright. The artworks will be auctioned off at the silent auction during the High Desert Rendezvous on August 20, but will remain on exhibit until September 11. "*Art of the West* includes inspirational artwork that captures the essence of the High Desert, and is a wonderful venue for artists to showcase

their work to a broad audience," said the Museum's Executive Director Dana Whitelaw, Ph.D. Last year, more than 25,000 visitors viewed the exhibition.

A portion of the proceeds from the auction help support the Museum's educational programs. The deadline for artist submissions is June 1 at 5:00 pm. A special evening opening for the exhibit and silent auction is Thursday, July 21, from 6:00 pm -8:00 pm and provides an opportunity to meet with the artists and to observe artist demonstrations. Admission is free.

Rules for entry and the submission form are available online at www.highdesertmuseum.org. *Art of the West* is presented by Bank of the Cascades.

Horse Gesture by Travis Pond, *Art of the West* 2015

###