

HIGH DESERT MUSEUM

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High Desert Museum Traveling Exhibition on Display at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center
Painting Oregon's Harvest: The Art of Kathy Deggendorfer opens March 13.

Bend, OR – An exhibition curated by High Desert Museum staff is set to open at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles, OR. on March 13. *Painting Oregon's Harvest: The Art of Kathy Deggendorfer* is among a selection of internally-curated exhibitions proudly offered by the HDM for lease to other Western history museums and organizations.

The exhibition, which premiered at the High Desert Museum in the fall of 2014, features a collection of sketchbooks, original watercolors and giclee prints inspired by Deggendorfer's travels throughout Oregon over the course of several years, while visiting farms, ranches, orchards, vineyards and fisheries. The artist devoted herself to hearing stories from the people behind these traditional American locations, whose dedication and hard work are at the heart of the state.

"From the orchards in Parkdale to the fishing industry in Astoria, the story of Oregon's farm and food network is rich with stories of passionate people with love for the land," explained Deggendorfer. "I am thrilled that 'Painting Oregon's Harvest' is being exhibited at the Discovery Center. I hope my view of Oregon's landscape resonates with those who view the paintings and inspires them to support local farmers and fisherman."

Deggendorfer's stunning paintings capture Oregon's bounty in vivid color and tell the stories of the people caring for the land and producing the harvest, while also showing what makes Oregon a special place for growing beautiful food. The exhibit will be on display at the Discover Center through May 28.

"We're excited and honored to see this exceptional exhibition in more communities throughout Oregon," said HDM Executive Director Dana Whitelaw, Ph.D. "Art has an amazing power to bring people together, and Kathy's paintings have the capacity to connect the diverse communities of Oregon and the West, celebrating agriculture's role in the past, present and future of the region."

Gleaning inspiration from the colors and textures surrounding her home on a cattle and hay ranch just outside of Sisters, OR., Deggendorfer's art, while whimsical, evokes emotion and a sense of place. Her paintings are often referred to as "Painter's Quilts," and have been featured on Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show Posters, on clothing by Columbia Sportswear, on custom tiles and tile murals as well as a range of everyday items such as mugs and wine totes. Additionally, encouraged by her quilting friends in Sisters, she created a fabric line called "Wild By Nature," which is offered across the nation by Maywood Studio.

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ABOUT THE MUSEUM:

THE HIGH DESERT MUSEUM opened in 1982 and brings regional wildlife, culture, art and natural resources together to promote an understanding of the natural and cultural heritage of North America's high desert country. The Museum uses indoor and outdoor exhibits, wildlife in natural habitats, and living history demonstrations to help people discover and appreciate the high desert environment. The Museum is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian Affiliate.

<https://www.highdesertmuseum.org>

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