

The Will Flores Fund May 2021 Newsletter

# SAVE THE DATE !

The Will Flores Fund will present its 14th Annual Art Show and Sale

Sunday, September 19, 2021

2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

21 O'Fallon Street ~ The Wm. A. Kerr Foundation



# St. Louis, Missouri 63102

Like all of you, The Will Flores Fund is looking forward to normalized times. We are planning to have a real life event (our shows are such fun!) and will observe all safety precautions then in effect.

THE ART OF GIVING~~A message from the founder, principal artist and chair, and the Board of Directors of The Will Flores Fund

Art lifts us; Giving is about making a difference. Art has Power; it transforms, illuminates, educates, inspires, motivates. Giving has Power; when we give of ourselves, hope is generated and we all rise while lifting others.

As we emerge from distressing times, the Board of The Will Flores Fund is reflecting on our Mission and our goals of creating a Community to support our Community. During this year of quietude, the Board adopted a new Mission Statement that better reflects the breadth of the Community we have served over the last thirteen years.

#### THE WILL FLORES FUND MISSION STATEMENT 2021

To provide youth and underserved groups mentoring, inspiration, and charitable program underwriting through activities and collaboration with the artistic community.

The goals of The Will Flores Fund cannot be achieved without support from many sources and The Will Flores Fund would not be where it is today without its dedicated board members, our hard working volunteer family, our generous artists, our patrons, donors, and community allies, and every one of you enthusiasts who attend our Show and Sale each year and purchase art that lifts and enlivens the soul while giving back to the community.

## We sell real art at prices real people can afford to help real people in need.

In 2020, we had an on-line sale. We were novices at designing and implementing an internet sale platform, so we limited our artists and our offerings.

Despite such restrictions, our supporters bought and our sponsors donated enough to allow us to provide grants to the following charitable and nonprofit organizations:

Bilingual International Assistance Services Gateway Dance Conservatory Hawthorne Leadership Academy Home Works! IHELP - Immigrant Home English Learning Program NorthSide Community School Perennial Prison Performing Arts River Styx Yoga Supplies to The Collective STL for the Brittney Middle School.

The Will Flores Fund also provided monetary support to 8 Food Pantries in April, 2020, and to 5 Food pantries in January, 2021. Operation Food Search alerted us to the emergencies these organizations were experiencing— overwhelming demand, vehicles breaking down— and we were glad to be able to help.

Every year our dedicated volunteers help run a successful event and we can't say thank you enough.

This year we are thanking our volunteers by passing out WFF t-shirts before the next event. Pictures of volunteers wearing their new shirts will be posted on our Instagram page, @the.will.flores.fund.

Our volunteers prove that one person can make such a difference! If you would like to help with the next WFF event, please reach out to Director Karen Kelly at <u>kellyK4525@sbcglobal.net</u>.



### Our 2021 Show and Sale promíses to be the best ever

It's early yet, and this Newsletter is the first "Call for Artists," but so far The Will Flores Fund has donations of a painting by Jim Pegg, recent paintings by Lyn Magee (who has been a consistent supporter for going on 11 years), a mirror by the late Jorge Martinez, and has been promised new pieces by ceramic artists Larry Smith, Troy Aiken, Norleen Nosri, and Jim Ibur.



Jim Pegg



Larry Smith



Lyn Magee



Jorge Martinez

One result of a year's quarantine: New works by Christopher Schulte





Shibori dyed silk

New copper and ceramic art and prints





New Paper Art















In addition, the Directors of The Will Flores Fund will be reviewing the years of art stored in a storage unit donated by Patricia Keating & Jim Hettenhaus in what we lovingly call "the Vault." It will be fun to retrieve and offer for sale some of the vintage pieces never before offered.



The Will Flores Fund is so grateful to the artists who have supported us over the years and who continue to contribute their art, knowing that we will sell it at prices below their usual professional prices. We are always looking for new artists who might be interested in reaching new audiences or who simply are willing to share their talent for a good cause.

Read our Call to Art in this Newsletter and contact Kim Sindel at <u>kimsindel@gmail.com</u> for more information.

## Call for Art

Every year at about this time the Board of The Will Flores Fund reaches out to our local artists and ask for donations of their work to our annual Show & Sale.

We are asking you to donate small pieces of original art that we can price from \$30 to \$150– There's no limit to the kind of art we'd like to have– paintings, fabric, mosaic, photographs, ceramics and sculpture– things that brought joy to you in their creation and will bring joy to their buyers.

Those of you familiar with The Will Flores Fund know that we hold the Show & Sale in the fall— this year it's on **Sunday, September 19**— and we mount the donated art in the gallery-like setting of the William F. Kerr building, a beautiful historic LEEDS- restored former sugar factory located at 21 O'Fallon Street near the riverfront.

We have a party, with wine & beer, hors d'oeuvres, activities for the kids, and music – all of that with art that's real and affordable– and we have a grand time.

And then the Board members have an even better time giving away our sales proceeds to deserving charitable organizations for whom a \$500 or \$1,000 grant makes all the difference in the world. Take a look at the list of our beneficiaries in 2020. Even though it was an odd truncated sale, we were able to help ten deserving and needy organizations and 13 food pantries.

#### OUR DEADLINE FOR DONATING THE ART IS SEPTEMBER 10.

Contact Christopher at Christopher108@att.net to arrange for pick-up or delivery.

## THANK YOU!

Over the years, since our inception in 2007, The Will Flores Fund has gained many friends, in addition to our artists and volunteers, who have contributed their talents and resources each year to make the Show and Sale a success.

We are especially grateful for their support and help to: Dr. John Sweet of the Wm. A. Kerr Foundation, Garry McMichael, Bruce Shoults, and Patricia Keating & Jim Hettenhaus.

The Will Flores Fund would also like to acknowledge the continuing generosity of those Friends who have donated one hundred dollars or more, one or more times ,over the past four years:

Linda Becker, Lisa Carpenter & Duncan McArthur, Sarah & Thomas Cohn, The Cohn Group, Inc., The Enterprise Holdings Foundation, George & Helen Floros, John & Patricia Hessel, Nancy Kuczor-Uline, Bonnie McMullin-Lawton & John Lawton, Susan Linhardt, Lyn Magee, Carol & William Mattson, Alynn Schmitt McManus, Philomena Slater, and Lenita & Henk Van der Werff.

And those who have contributed goods and services– internet expertise, wine, hors d'oeuvres, music, special sale items, and contributions from private collections: Karen Martinez, Carlin Issitt & Jason Main, Jason Bishop, Carol Eder, Za Goodbrake, Joanne Kluba, Lyn Magee, Jim Brainard, and Donald Wilson & Linda Becker.

We know there are many unacknowledged here who have made small contributions or rounded up their purchase prices to add a donation to the Fund and our thanks go to them as well.

And, of course, The Will Flores Fund is grateful to the artists who have been so generous with their talent and to you, our readers, who attend the Show & Sale and make the purchases that enable us to fulfill our Mission each year.

