

NEWS

Framingham gallery spotlights residents and contemporary issues with new art exhibit

Lillian Eden MetroWest Daily News

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FRAMINGHAM — A reception for a new gallery spotlighting Framingham residents and multidisciplinary art from various artists will be held at The Mill Contemporary Art Friday in Framingham from 6-9 p.m. Friday. The exhibit will run through June 7.

The exhibition has three parts; "Framingham: City of Dreams," featuring photos of Framingham residents made by high school students; "Under the Same Flag," a multidisciplinary exhibition from 15 different artists exploring concepts such as identity and community in America; and a "Community Write-In," an interactive wall where people can write and leave notes.

"I'm hoping this is the seed that starts the bigger conversation—especially after the pandemic—that we need community more than ever, we need our neighbors more than ever," said Claudia Ruiz Gustafson, an artist and curator who organized the exhibit. "It was a year of zoom receptions, and they were fine, and they were, of course, important and necessary. But there's nothing like that personal component, to see people, to talk to people, to hug people. To be in front of the art is an experience that nothing compares to."

Gustafson said she also wanted to use this project to expand interest in the arts especially for people that, for example, have never been to a gallery reception before—or even stepped foot in a gallery.

"How do we bring a regular person, like the owner of a bakery, into our gallery?" she said. "These projects are the way to do it. Art doesn't have to be elitist. Art is for everyone. This is, for me, one of the main reasons I did it, because I wanted everybody in the art gallery."

The high school photographers for the "City of Dreams" exhibit are Anton Bica, Fiona Burke, Casey Corcoran and Lucas Gustafson. The artists featured as part of the "Under the Same

Flag" exhibit are Alan Strassman, Bayda Asbridge, Lynn Simons, Cathy Weaver Taylor, Iris Grimm, Joni Lohr, Maria Servellon, Marissa Burns, Melvin Markowitz, Neil Horsky, Nicci Meadow, Nilou Moochhala, Paul Angiolillo, Siddharth Choudhary and Zammco.

If you go

WHAT: "Framingham: City of Dreams"; "Under the Same Flag" and "Community Write-in"

WHEN: A reception is scheduled for 6-9 p.m. May 14 (No RSVP required). The exhibit will run through June 7.

WHERE: Project B Gallery at The Mill Contemporary Art, 2 Central St., Saxonville Mill #1, Framingham.

ADMISSION: Free

MORE INFORMATION: 508-665-064; <https://www.facebook.com/ProjBGallery/>