

“Multiple Perspectives” exhibit at BC3 “one of the best,” gallery curator says

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Five untitled works of Lynn Huseman, pictured bottom right, are on display through March 27 as part of “Multiple Perspectives,” an exhibit of paintings at Butler County Community College’s Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery. Huseman passed away April 23, 2018. She was married to David Huseman, a professor of humanities and social science who has worked at BC3 for 52 years.

(Butler, PA) Lynn Huseman’s paintings adorned walls within her home in Butler. Nearly a year after her passing, they now adorn walls within the Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery at Butler County Community College as part of “Multiple Perspectives,” an exhibit created by students as young as 4 using art materials purchased through donations to the BC3 Education Foundation in Huseman’s memory.

After Huseman, 72, passed away April 23, friends – and colleagues of her husband, David, a professor of humanities and social science who has worked at BC3 for 52 years – contributed funds to the BC3 Education Foundation.

“At that point, I wasn’t sure what we were going to do with the contributions,” Huseman said. “So talking it over with my daughters (Amy and Beth Huseman), we thought that the idea of presenting an art show in her memory would be a perfect solution.”

Financial gifts allowed BC3 fine arts instructor David Ludwick to purchase canvases, paints and brushes used by students in his introduction to painting class, and by preschoolers in the Amy Wise Children’s Creative Learning Center.

“The whole idea of this exhibit,” Ludwick said, “is one generation motivating and acting as a mentor to the others.”

“Multiple Perspectives” features 13 paintings and is on display in the Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery on BC3’s main campus in Butler Township through March 27.

Lynn Huseman attended Penn Hills High School and was accepted at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y. She instead studied elementary education at Edinboro State College and taught in the Karns City School District and at St. Paul’s Catholic School in Butler.

Her five paintings, all untitled, were made from 1963 to 1980. Two depict flowers, two, seashells and one, a pineapple and pears. Four were created with watercolor paint and one with gouache, which Ludwick describes as “an opaque watercolor medium versus a transparent traditional watercolor.”

“A lot of Lynn’s work is based off nature, and observations,” said Ludwick, curator of the Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery since fall 2017. “We see elements of nature that were near and dear to her, the flowers, plants, leaves and seashells. There is an element of that through all her work.”

Added Huseman of Lynn: “She was very precise. Very exact. It had to be perfect. If not, she would start over.”



Preschoolers enrolled in Butler County Community College’s Amy Wise Children’s Creative Learning Center work Feb. 4 on “Winter,” an acrylic painting that will be featured in “Multiple Perspectives,” an exhibit at BC3’s Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery through March 27.



Jasmyn Murdie, a Butler County Community College fine arts student from Saxonburg, is shown Feb. 28 with “Goblin Market,” a 5-foot by 4-foot acrylic painting that will be featured in “Multiple Perspectives,” an exhibit at BC3’s Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery through March 27.

The exhibit includes “Winter,” a 5-foot by 4-foot acrylic painting made by 17 Amy Wise Children’s Creative Learning Center preschoolers; and “Goblin Market,” a 5-foot by 4-foot acrylic painting created by students in Lindsay Lanigan’s literature class and led by Jasmyn Murdie. “Goblin Market” offers a contemporary twist on the 1862 narrative poem by Christina Rossetti that Murdie and classmates read in Lanigan’s class.

“‘Goblin’s Market’ is a re-interpretation of Adam and Eve and about addiction,” said Murdie, a BC3 fine arts student from Saxonburg. “But instead of a woman and a man, it is about two sisters. And instead of demons and snakes, it is goblins that go around and give them fruit.”

“Multiple Perspectives” also features “Abstract Challenge,” an acrylic painting from Eileen “Tyke” Vaughn, of Butler, a nontraditional student who has studied art at BC3 for the past decade.

“This is one of the best exhibits we have ever done,” Ludwick said. “It is truly an educational, motivational tool. To the best of my knowledge, it is the only time we have represented such a large age and experience span all connected with BC3, with the 4- and 5-year-olds and everything that comes after. The inclusion of Tyke’s painting represents even the nontraditional experience.”

“Multiple Perspectives” is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. A reception will be held from noon to 2:30 p.m. March 20. The exhibit will be followed by BC3’s spring student art showcase in April, Ludwick said.



“Abstract Challenge,” an acrylic painting created by Eileen “Tyke” Vaughn, of Butler, a nontraditional student who has studied art at Butler County Community College for the past decade, is shown Feb. 28 in BC3’s Mary Hulton Phillips Gallery, where it will part of “Multiple Perspectives,” an exhibit through March 27.