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Center of Wonder launches digital artist directory

On DailyWonder.org creatives can post bios, contact info and samples of their work.

By Julie Kukral

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Carrie Wild and Jason Williams move one of Wild's pieces into their new gallery space at the corner of Broadway and Glenwood. Wild is one of about two dozen artists featured on the Center of Wonder's new digital artist directory, which includes artists' names and contact information, as well information about their work.

RYAN DORGAN / NEWS&GUIDE FILE

Not every artist living in Jackson has a consistent space to show work.

To give a bigger platform to Jackson's local talent, the Center of Wonder recently launched an online artist directory that features more than 20 artists and counting.

The directory is part of the Center of Wonder's ongoing mission to support local creatives.

“The artist directory is something we’ve wanted to do for some time as a way of supporting the creative leaders in our community,” said Veronica Silberberg, who co-founded the Center of Wonder with her husband, Gary, in 2007.

The artist directory lives on the Center of Wonder’s online arts and culture calendar, DailyWonder.org. The website serves as a one-stop-shop for all arts-related events happening in Jackson, from larger-scale programming at the Center for the Arts to smaller pop-up shows at flexible spaces around town.

Now, DailyWonder.org has a new landing page dedicated to showcasing Jackson’s rich artistic community. Web visitors to the artist directory can search for specific artists and explore talent based on medium, like printmaking, ceramics and writing. Each artist has a profile that includes his or her biography, contact information and work examples.

“There are so many talented artists who do not have or cannot afford gallery representation,” Silberberg said. “The directory is a great avenue for a new artist to share their work with the community and gain exposure.”

The directory was made possible by a grant from the Wyoming Arts Council, as well as the Wyoming State Legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. To create it the Center of Wonder sent a survey to 100 artists and writers in the area. The two-dozen or so artists featured on the website currently were the first to express interest.

Silberberg said she hopes to expand the directory to dancers, musicians and actors in the future. Any artists who would like to be included can visit DailyWonder.org/artists and fill out the survey at the top of the webpage.

In addition to the online directory the Center of Wonder will feature artist spotlights on its calendar, social media and other promotional materials, Silberberg said.

The directory is another notch on the Center of Wonder’s long history of supporting the Jackson arts community.

Since beginning in 2007 with a mission to “empower creative leaders and advocate for the arts in Jackson Hole,” the nonprofit has provided over \$1 million in grants to artists and nonprofits in the community through managing the Arts For All grant program and Live Performance Fund.

Those grants have helped bring workshops, music series, artist residencies and more to life. In the past year alone the Arts for All initiative helped support programs like Riot Act Inc.'s 2019-20 season, the Teton Artlab's artist-in-residence program West Weird, and Jackson Hole Writers' workshops with Amanda Eke.

In 2019 the Center of Wonder also expanded into providing arts education through the Wonder Institute, which provides programming, mentorship, space and education. Through the Institute, the Center of Wonder is working on rolling out a Digital Media Lab for filmmakers and photographers, a "makerspace" for artists and a speaker series.

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