

Nevada Humanities Exhibition Features Art Made During a Year of Pandemic "Nevada Youth Make Their Mark" Opens Today

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April 21, 2021—LAS VEGAS, NV—As part of the ongoing <u>Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series</u>, a new exhibition, <u>Nevada Youth Make Their Mark: Sharing Experiences from the Pandemic Year and Looking Forward</u>, opens online on April 21, 2021, at <u>nevadahumanities.org</u> and will be on display as a virtual exhibition indefinitely. Andrea Martinez, Program Director of Nevada95 at the Guinn Center, will host an Exhibition Discussion on Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 6 pm. This event requires advance registration; register for this Zoom event at <u>nevadahumanities.org</u>.

Nevada Youth Make Their Mark includes works selected from a juried art contest for Nevada youth ages 14 – 24 as part of Nevada95, an initiative to strengthen youth civic engagement led by the Guinn Center. The contest theme was: Youth Service and Civic Engagement During COVIC-19: Finding Connection During the Pandemic. Nevada95 wanted to hear directly from young people about what the past year was like for them and what they will carry forward into the future. These experiences of these young artists are expressed through visual and graphic arts, poems, essays, videos, audio recordings, photography, performance art, and digital media.

"During a year of being kept apart, youth were resilient and found ways to engage and connect as the true innovators they are, they allowed art to tell their stories," said Andrea Martinez, Program Director, Nevada95. "We are hoping to encourage youth to feel empowered to use their voices to bring about positive change."

"Nevada Youth Make Their Mark highlights the power of young Nevada voices and perspectives, and works to build a pathway that encourages them to serve their communities and take a seat at the table. Participating in the civic process builds an exciting and strong platform for the youth leaders of Nevada and this exhibition shows us the strength and resilience of this generation," says Christina Barr, Nevada Humanities Executive Director.

About Nevada95 and the Guinn Center: Nevada95 is a statewide initiative that seeks to strengthen youth civic engagement and amplify youth voices in the decisions that affect them. The Guinn Center is a nonprofit, research center/policy lab that seeks to identify evidence-based solutions through data-driven analysis, public engagement, and strategic partnerships. For more information visit: guinncenter.org.

About Nevada Humanities: Nevada Humanities is one of 56 independent, nonprofit state and territorial humanities councils affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. With offices in Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada Humanities creates public programs and supports public projects statewide that define the Nevada experience and facilitate the exploration of issues that matter to the people of Nevada and their communities. For more information about Nevada Humanities visit nevadahumanities.org.

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Image/Nevada Humanities Exhibition Series 2021, Ilia Sandez, Time of Phases, Acrylic on Canvas.

