



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FotoFocus Awards Lloyd Library Emergency Art Grant

With the coronavirus pandemic upon us and after serious consideration, FotoFocus Biennial redirected their 2020 budget to support local art communities through emergency art grants. The Lloyd Library and Museum was one of over 100 participating partners and venues selected to receive these immediate and unrestricted grants. FotoFocus Executive Director, Mary Ellen Goeke conveyed, "the best thing we can do to help the arts survive this crisis is reconfigure our grantmaking... We hope this money will help our partners get by at the time they need it most."

In lieu of a 2020 FotoFocus exhibition, the Lloyd Library will use the grant to expand cultural and scientific awareness of local natural history through the launch of a new podcast, *Through the Leaves*, which will go live this summer. The October episode will bring an aspect of the Lloyd's previously scheduled FotoFocus Biennial 2020 exhibition, *Nature Prints*, to a sound medium. A second collaboration at the Lloyd by photographers TJ Vissing and Rick Conner, their exhibition was slated to tell the story of how light weaves its magic through the amazing natural areas of central Ohio. As an added value, Vissing and Conner's work overlaps with the research that the Lloyd's current Fellow and podcast producer is conducting on women conservationists and their photographs from 100 years ago. The Emergency Art Grant will not only fund the production of the photography inspired episode, but it will also support the structure and design of the podcast along with other episodes of interest to the arts and cultural community.

Lloyd Executive Director Patricia Van Skaik, expressed gratitude for the funding, noting that the grant "moves us forward with a podcast that had been on our 'drawing board' and now will become part of the digital tapestry more relevant than ever during the corona crisis." The Lloyd Library and Museum looks forward proposing a new exhibition for FotoFocus Biennial 2022.

The Lloyd Library and Museum is located at 917 Plum St. in Cincinnati, Ohio. For more information or to schedule a visit, contact the Library at (513) 721-3707 or email contact@lloydlibrary.org or visit LloydLibrary.org.