

For Immediate Release

January 19, 2022

CONTACT:

Suzette Hart
Development Director
206-467-4813
suzetteh@biawa.org



Art for the Senses

Brain Injury Art Show Currently on Display in Renton

SEATTLE, WASH. – There is healing, creativity, and expression currently on display at the Renton History Museum.

The annual Brain Injury Art Show provides individuals with brain injuries an opportunity for their voices to be heard, and their talent to be on full display. Participating artists have had to adjust their lives because of brain injuries caused by trauma, stroke, or other health conditions. Artwork includes paintings, photography, sculptures, and multimedia.

The Brain Injury Art Show features 33 original artworks created by individuals whose lives have been forever changed by an accident or condition that lead to what is known as an “invisible disability” – something that can’t be seen, and is often misunderstood or ignored.

“Brain Injury is called the ‘silent epidemic’ because public recognition of brain injury is extremely low despite the staggering number of people who are injured each year,” states Deborah Crawley, Executive Director of the Brain Injury Alliance of Washington. The effects of brain injury – physical impairment, cognitive deficits, behavioral issues – have a far-reaching impact on survivors’ quality of life.

Art is a vital form of expression to many of the participating artists. Many employ art as a therapeutic tool in their recovery process from brain injury. Artists have been quietly creating art, knowing that few may see their finished pieces.

“What is amazing about the Brain Injury Art Show is that it highlights individuals who were artists before their brain injury and who continue their passion as it supports their healing, Crawley stated. Also highlighted are individuals who never had an artistic leaning prior to their injury but now find the art to be an outlet for healing, expression, and creativity. The art itself gives us a chance to acknowledge and celebrate these artists’ journeys.

The Brain Injury Art Show is currently showing at the Renton History Museum, located at 235 Mill Avenue South, Renton, through February 11, 2022. The Museum is open Wednesday

through Friday from 10 am-4 pm. All visitors must show proof of vaccination or a negative PCR test within 72 hours of their visit. Masks are also required. Capacity is limited to 15 at any time due to COVID restrictions. Reservations are strongly recommended. There is no cost to visit the Museum.

For those who are unable to attend in person, a Virtual Art Gallery is available on the BIAWA Brain Injury Art Show webpage: www.biawa.org/brain-injury-art-show

The Brain Injury Art Show is proudly presented by the Brain Injury Alliance of Washington, in conjunction with the [Renton History Museum](#), and is sponsored by [Friedman | Rubin Trial Lawyers](#) and [Brothers & Henderson, P.S.](#)

To find out more about the Brain Injury Art Show or other BIAWA classes and activities, find resources, or learn how you can get involved, visit biawa.org

About BIAWA

Founded in 1982, the Brain Injury Alliance of Washington has grown substantially, making gainful strides towards offering a complete, robust set of services and resources for individuals living with Brain Injury across Washington State.

Key Accomplishments:

2020: BIAWA created the Brain Injury Today Podcast, a monthly podcast which has helped connect the brain injury community during the pandemic with resources, research, and stories of hope and resilience.

2018: BIAWA established the Pooled Alliance Community Trust (PACT), a long-term financial planning solution which allows individuals with non-developmental disabilities, including those with acquired brain injuries, to protect their vital healthcare and income benefits, conserve their assets, and improve their quality of life.

2015: BIAWA established the Brain Health & Wealth program, which offers free classes geared towards promoting individual well-being and life skills for Brain Injury survivors.

2011: BIAWA contracted with DSHS to acquire the Washington Brain Injury Resource Center. In-person support services for youth and adults are available state-wide and the Center responds to 10,000+ calls per year.

2009: BIAWA advocated for the passage of the Zackery Lystedt Law, a rigorous “return to play” law that was the first of its kind in the nation. All states have since passed similar laws, and the NFL followed suit by implementing concussion protocol in 2013.

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Attached: 2021 BIAWA Brain Injury Art Show **Virtual Art Gallery**.pdf