

National park keeps Margaret Dwyer as Artist-In-Residence

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park, in partnership with ArtisTree Community Arts Center, welcomes the return of Artist-In-Residence (AIR) Margaret Dwyer. Dwyer is a multimedia artist with a specialization in watercolor. Her first residency at the park was in 2019 and the park was fortunate to have her return last year and this year to carry on the AIR program through the pandemic.

Dwyer's current residency will run through October and will feature open houses at the park's artist studio, as well as workshops for children and adults. In the workshops, she will incorporate elements of the forest and encourage visitors to create a hybrid version of where they sit, what they see, even what they feel, finding deeper elements of the material from which their art is created.

Dwyer's creativity emerges through the process of taking artistic risks. If what she is creating is too

comfortable, she is not interested. If it is out of her comfort zone, that's happily where she lands. It is what makes her face light up. This approach to creativity keeps Dwyer pushing the limits of her mind and craft — even decades into a long career as professional educator and artist. With a sense of fun at “what could be” and “what lies beneath” she will pull a string through paint or see what happens with a new technique when found leaves and ferns are washed with color, literally playing her works into being.

As many did last year during the COVID-19 pandemic, Dwyer found herself turning inward, into the recesses of her imagination and her paintings took on more abstract dimensions. Leaning out of her comfort zone, she has the expertise to allow the flora, fauna and even architecture of the park to transcend into bold, colorful imagery.

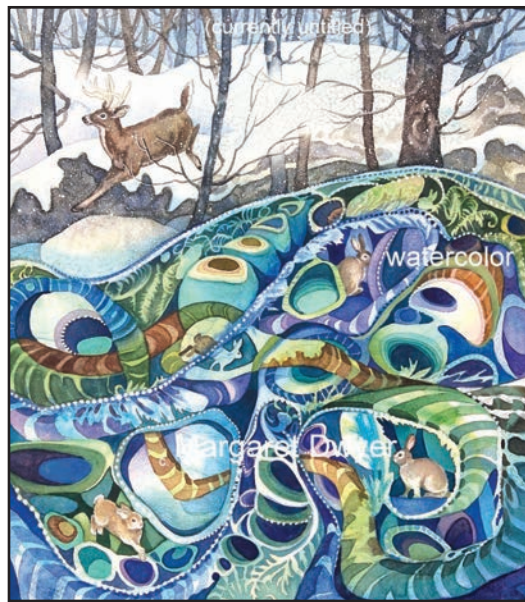
Dwyer's work has been published and exhibited nationally and internationally. In addition

to painting, her repertoire includes experimental art, photography, handmade books, sculpture, and murals. She currently teaches from her private studio/gallery space at the Windsor House in Windsor, where she will be hosting an exhibit based on her National Park residency in October 2021 (date TBD). Her work will be on display and for sale under the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park tent on the green during the Woodstock Art Festival on Sept. 11-12. For more information visit MargaretDwyerArtist.com.

Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP is one of over 50 national park areas that host Artist-in-Residence programs. These programs continue the legacy of artists' connection to national parks and the influence their art, photos, and prose have had on their creation and protection. Applications for the 2022 Artist-in-Residence program will be available in the fall. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/mabi.



Above, Margaret Dwyer in the Artist-in-Residence studio at Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park. Below, Watercolor works by Dwyer created during her residency, taken from scenes from the park “Dutchman's Pipe” and “Hidden Winter.” Photos Provided

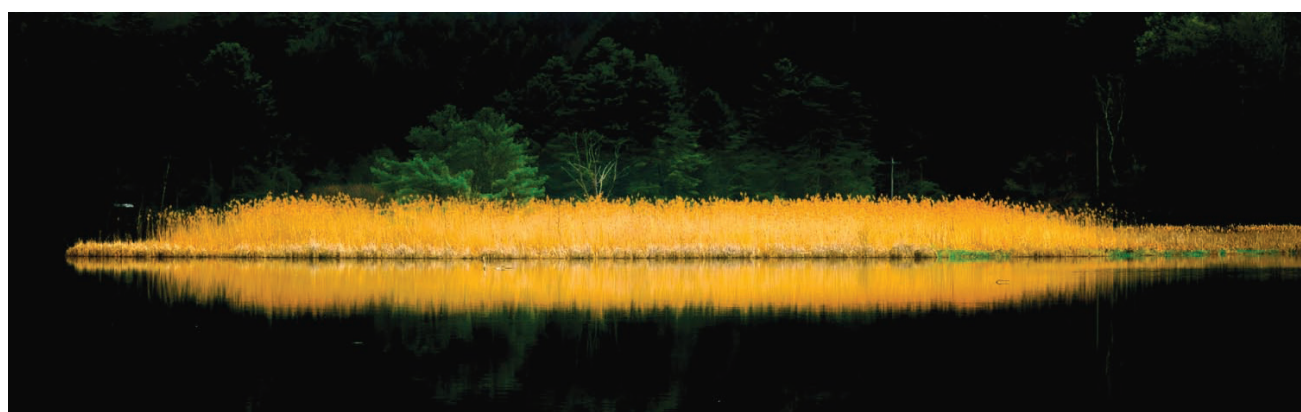


Photographer Kip King at Norman Williams Public Library

Photographer Kip King opens at the Norman Williams Public Library Mezzanine Gallery on Friday, Sept. 3, 4-5:30 p.m.

As a young boy, Kip King took his first photograph with an antique Kodak folding bellows camera he discovered abandoned in an attic corner. Ever since, he has been captivated by photography and inspired by photographers from Eugène Atget to Ansel Adams and Eliot Porter to Michael Kenna.

King says that his work is inspired by nature, and Vermont in particular. “I am drawn to the intimate landscape of New England,” he said. “These black-and-white and color photographs celebrate and reconnect us with Vermont's natural landscape and places that have shaped us. They



“Dewey's Pond” by photographer Kip King. King's work will be on display at the Mezzanine Gallery at the Norman Williams Public Library beginning Sept. 3. Photo Provided

remind us of our responsibility of stewardship so that nature can continue to nurture us in return.”

He learned fine arts and art history at Harvard and had the good fortune to then take a class in landscape photography at Ansel Adams' Studio in Yosemite, Calif. He is currently working toward a Certificate in Photography at

the Rhode Island School of Design. King is also an astrophysicist at the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics researching the origins of our Milky Way Galaxy. King explained how his scientific background was relevant to his work, saying, “The exhibit also includes a series of meditations on stone and its metamorphoses. Geologic time is deep time. Rocks are

continually recycled, typically on timescales of millions of years. The origin and history of a rock are written, literally and metaphorically, in the variegated patterns on its surface and within.” King lives and works in Norwich. You can view his work at kipkingphotography.com.

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