

Contact: Kris Cross
Director of Public Relations
937-393-3431, ext. 2676
800-628-7722, ext. 2676
kcross@sscc.edu

SOUTHERN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
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CUTLINE: Artwork by Elaine Balsley is on display at Southern State Community College's South Campus near Fincastle throughout fall semester. A meet-the-artist event will be held 6-8 p.m. Sept. 26.

SSCC plans Sept. 26 artist reception for Elaine Balsley

An exhibition featuring artist Elaine Balsley is currently on display in the Learning Resources Center (LRC) of Southern State Community College's South Campus, 12681 U.S. Route 62, near Fincastle. The exhibition will be available for viewing throughout fall semester.

A meet-the-artist reception will be held 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26, in the LRC. The event is free to the community and refreshments will be served.

Balsley is a self-taught artist who says she enjoys creating art in any medium and genre, including portraits, flowers, still life, classic aircraft, contemporary, and landscapes. She enjoys painting flowers so they appear larger than life, allowing the viewer to see the dynamic beauty in nature.

Many of her paintings have been created with mixed media on an acrylic base, either using various molding pastes and pumice gels to give texture, or beginning with an underlying thick layer. In addition to acrylics, she also enjoys working in pastel, watercolor, colored pencil and graphite.

Following a 2008 donation of one of her aircraft paintings to a show sponsored by the Pentagon, Balsley became a member of the Air Force Art Program (AFAPO). Since then, she has contributed five more paintings to the collection which includes more than 10,000 donated pieces of artwork depicting the history of the United States Air Force.

A member of the Brush & Palette Art Guild, the Wilmington Community Arts Collaborative, and the Worthington Area Art League, Balsley is published in North Light Publishing's "Painter's Quick Reference: Cats & Dogs," with a four-page demonstration on how to paint a chocolate Labrador retriever puppy using acrylic paints. To learn more about Balsley's work, visit www.orchardviewstudio.com.

For more information about exhibition hours or the Sept. 26 meet-the-artist reception, please contact David Allen, LRC manager, at 1-800-628-7722, ext. 3680, or dallen@sscc.edu.

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