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Art Exhibit *Inspirations from Nature: Paintings by Anthony Dyke and Susan Morrison-Dyke* Opens at Myriad Gardens

First exhibit in the Myriad Gardens' newly remodeled Visitor Center

Oklahoma City, OK -- Anthony Dyke and Susan Morrison-Dyke, both accomplished artists in the Oklahoma City metro area, have created an exhibition of paintings inspired by nature to be featured at the Myriad Gardens' re-opening of its visitor center. *Inspirations from Nature: Paintings by Anthony Dyke and Susan Morrison-Dyke* is on exhibit through January 31, 2019. The show consists of large canvases created specifically as a celebratory tribute to the "beauty and inventiveness" of "nature and architecture." The artist's abstract paintings share a common thread by the use of textures and colorful botanical elements based on flower color ways and landscapes often confined within architectural parameters in the paintings. The artists' love for the physical act of painting invites the viewer to simply enjoy the rich qualities of paint and celebration of nature's impact on artistic creativity.

This exhibit is free to the public to view. Hours are general Crystal Bridge Conservatory hours: Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The works of art are available for sale. Proceeds benefit the Myriad Gardens Foundation.

Anthony Dyke is a painter who draws inspiration from nature, interior spaces and his urban surroundings. He manipulates images that are often reduced to shapes and areas of color through an intuitive process that leads his works to a richly textured and painterly abstraction.

Susan Morrison-Dyke finds inspiration in the spiritual geometry of ancient art, the reductive design, and abstraction of mid-century modern and the fresh inventiveness of cubism. She is an accomplished colorist, using color to create spatial ambiguities while constructing her paintings with figurative, architectural and organic elements.

About the renovation to the Crystal Bridge Visitor Center

This renovation project included the lower level spaces in the Crystal Bridge to function as classrooms for students from John Rex School, which includes 75 sixth graders who will start school at the Gardens in August. The renovation also features the creation of a new classroom for horticultural programs, and renovation of the south visitor lobby to make it a more attractive, functional and useable space for Gardens programs and rentals. A new art hanging system was installed. Susan Morrison-Dyke

and Anthony Dyke were instrumental in working hand-in-hand with the staff for the first art show using this system.

The Myriad Botanical Gardens is one of Oklahoma City's most beloved public spaces, offering its visitors a 15 acre natural escape in the very heart of downtown. A half-acre children's garden, an off-leash dog park, restaurant space, splash fountains, and paths for walking and jogging provide guests young and old with a place to seek solitude with nature, or seek community and the company of others. Additionally, the Myriad Gardens offers a variety of horticultural education programs for adults and children.

The Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory's unique design has earned attention and praise in the architectural community. It is 224 feet long, 70 feet in diameter, and is covered by 3,028 sections of translucent, double-layered acrylic panels. The Conservatory includes 13,000 square feet of plant display area in two distinct climates: the Tropical Wet Zone, which is at the south end and is watered daily; and the Tropical Dry Zone at the north end which receives water from April through September, followed by drought from November through March. Some 2,000 varieties of plants and a 35-foot waterfall round out the spectacular features of the Conservatory.

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