

DRAFT
EVENT RELEASE

While challenging at times, this past year has been a time of renewal and creation for two artists who also happen to be good friends. "Art in the Time of Covid: Oil Paintings by Marnell Brown & Sunnie LeBlanc" will feature works created during this difficult, but inspiring year. The exhibition in the Bigfork Art & Cultural Center will open on July 2 and run through August 7. The center is open Tuesdays through Saturday from 11 am until 5 pm. Admission is free.

An artist's reception will be held on Friday, July 9 from 5 to 7 pm in the Cultural Center. The reception will give the public an opportunity to meet and learn more about the artists and their works. In addition, LeBlanc has scheduled a series of "Easel Talks" to be held each Thursday during the exhibition from 3 pm until 5 pm. Talks are scheduled for July 8, 15, 22, 29 and August 5. Sunnie will be working on a new painting (we understand it's a scene from Glacier National Park) while also discussing various aspects of the creative process as well as answering questions from interested viewers. A docent for museums in Montana and Fort Worth, Sunnie loves talking about art and sharing her experiences.

Sunnie LeBlanc divides her time between Fort Worth, Texas and her home in Montana's Flathead Valley. Sunnie calls herself "A hard-edged oil painter" who loves painting in the outdoors in Glacier National Park and throughout Northwest Montana. She loves the challenge of portraying the area's rugged mountains, clear lakes and wild creatures.

For Marnell Brown, life off the grid provides the background for her impressionistic oil paintings that reveal the beauty of life in Montana's backcountry. Painting directly from nature on artist-prepared board, her studies of horses, mules and life on a rugged ranch tell of a simple and profound existence.

###

NOTE: Photos of the artists and their works are available. Contact Carol Beck-Edgar at 406-837-2061. Or email: edgecomm15@gmail.com.