

► In The News

Art Gallery presents new exhibit by local artist

HOLYOKE – The Taber Art Gallery at Holyoke Community College is pleased to present “Things Aren’t What They Seem,” an exhibition of paintings and drawings by Holyoke artist Ryan Patience Rushing, Nov. 3 through Dec. 29.

An opening reception will be held in the gallery Nov. 3 from 6-8 p.m. as well as a broad line calligraphy workshop on Wed., Nov. 8, from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Rushing is a multidisciplinary artist and designer. Engagement with letterforms is the bedrock of her practice, and a point from which Rushing examines physics, philosophy, and psychology. A philomath and amateur cosmologist, Rushing’s interests span concepts such as simulation theory, string theory, optimistic nihilism, fallacies, and semiotics. The nature of our world and how we understand it are at the core of her work.

“I think a lot about things like simulation theory and the big universe that we live in and how there’s a whole lot more to the world than what we can see,” Rushing said. “I like the dichotomy of using lettering to directly communicate things that are nebulous concepts. And



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Submitted Photo

then, hopefully, while you’re reading, your brain is doing work to question how things aren’t what they seem.”

Rushing’s career spans 15 years of experience in graphic design, marketing, branding, UX design, and front-end website development. She received her bachelor’s degree in fine arts from Louisiana Tech University in 2009.

“I believe in accessible art, and how art should not be just for the rich and the elite,” Rushing said. “Art should be for everyone. You can use Crayola broad tip markers to do calligraphy and drawing. You can use them to do watercolor. They’re available everywhere, and they’re relatively inexpensive, and you can make some really beautiful pieces of art.”

The workshop is open to the public, but advance registration is requested. To register, please go to: hcc.edu/taber-things.

The Taber Art Gallery, located off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the HCC Donahue Building, is free and open to the public Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. during regular school sessions.