

NEWS RELEASE

North Olympic Library System 2210 South Peabody Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: November 24, 2023

Contact: Adrienne Langan, Librarian

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Re: World AIDS Day: Art in the Library performances on Dec. I

Attached: PeninsulaQueerXhoir.jpg, AIDSQuiltPanel.jpg

The North Olympic Library System (NOLS) invites community members to enjoy live performances and view artwork during the **World AIDS Day: Art in the Library** exhibition opening event on Friday, Dec. I, 6:30-8pm, at the Port Angeles Main Library, 2210 S. Peabody St. The exhibition celebrates work made by regional artists living with or affected by HIV/AIDS, those impacted by the journey or loss of a loved one, and others who are contributing to the conversation.

Performances begin in the Port Angeles Main Library at 7pm, and will be livestreamed on Zoom. The Zoom link is available at nols.org/AIDS-day-art. The Peninsula Queer Xhoir will perform alongside other live pieces curated for Art in the Library. This includes a reading that gives the history of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, and audio excerpts from interviews by area residents impacted by HIV/AIDS. Clallam County Poet Laureate Jaiden Dokken will read two poems submitted to the exhibition by Pacific Northwest poets. Resource information will be available for HIV/AIDS healthcare and services in Clallam County, provided by Kitsap Public Health.

The opening reception coincides with the annual observation of World AIDS Day, an international day dedicated to raising awareness, working to remove the stigma of HIV, and

remembering lives lost due to AIDS. The exhibition will remain on view in the library through Thursday, February 29, 2024.

World AIDS Day: Art in the Library is presented in collaboration with Port Angeles Fine Arts Center and Kitsap Public Health District. This program is generously funded in part by Port Angeles Friends of the Library.

For more information, visit <u>nols.org/AIDS-day-art</u>, call 360.417.8500, or email <u>art@nols.org</u>.

About Art in the Library

Art in the Library is a program sponsored by the North Olympic Library System, which provides display space for original artwork. Support comes from the Port Angeles Friends of the Library. After a hiatus due to COVID, the World AIDS Day exhibition will be the first on display since March 2020. Future exhibitions will rotate on a quarterly basis.



Peninsula Queer Xhoir will perform at 7pm on Dec. 1.



An AIDS Memorial Quilt panel courtesy of Kitsap Public Health District will be on view. # # #