



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 6, 2020
Contact: Noah Glaude, Assistant Library Director
360.417.8500 x7717; NGlaude@nols.org
Re: Festivities planned for new art exhibit co-hosted by NOLS and PAFAC
Attached: *Tomo-Nakayama-by-Ian-Allen-1.jpg, Obsessed art show.PNG*

The Port Angeles Main Library of the North Olympic Library System (NOLS) and the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center (PAFAC) have partnered to co-host *Obsessed: The Art of Nerd-dom*, a new art exhibit that celebrates the irrepressible creativity and playfulness of nerd culture in the Northwest. The two organizations are excited to be partnering and have planned a series of events for the exhibit's opening on Saturday, January 11. After a VIP event for PAFAC members at 4pm, a public reception at the PAFAC will begin at 5pm. Then, at 6:30pm, the rest of the exhibit will open to the public at the Port Angeles Main Library during the Library's *Art Blast!* Tomo Nakayama, a multi-instrumentalist, singer, and songwriter from Seattle, will begin performing in the Library at 7pm. Refreshments will be served during the *Art Blast!* and limited library services will be available during this free after-hours event.

Obsessed: The Art of Nerd-dom

Co-curated by Sarah Jane & Ginny Holladay, the new exhibit *Obsessed: The Art of Nerd-dom* will be on display at the Port Angeles Fine Arts Center and the Port Angeles Main Library from January 11 through March 15. Reclaiming the once-perjorative term "nerd" to mean anyone who obsesses over created content, the exhibit takes a glimpse into the artistic side of nerd culture and our innate desire to expand upon the creative content we love. With artwork ranging from literary illustration to comics to game design, this exhibit celebrates the irrepressible creativity and playfulness of nerd culture in the Northwest.

Obsessed: The Art of Nerd-dom is generously supported by the Port Angeles Friends of the Library, Anime Kat, D.A. Davidson, Camaraderie Cellars and the City of Port Angeles.

The exhibit's opening festivities on January 11 include:

- VIP Members' Event, 4-5pm at the PAFAC
- Public Reception, 5-7pm at the PAFAC
- *Art Blast!* Featuring a musical performance by Tomo Nakayama, 6:30-8pm at the Port Angeles Main Library

Tomo Nakayama

Named "Best Folk Act" by Seattle Weekly, Tomo Nakayama has consistently created music that is complex, nuanced, and emotionally compelling. His decade of work both as a solo artist and with his chamber-pop band Grand Hallway have been praised by NPR, New York Times, and KEXP. Known for his crystalline high-tenor voice, intricate fingerpicking, cinematic production style, and simple, poetic lyrics imbued with warmth and humanity, Tomo's songs have drawn comparisons to Paul Simon, Elliott Smith, and Jeff Buckley.

He has also composed music for film and television, and starred as an actor opposite Ellen Page in Lynn Shelton's Sundance Grand Jury nominated movie "Touchy Feely". As Artist in Residence at Seattle's Town Hall, Tomo wrote and recorded his solo debut album, *Fog On The Lens* with producer Yuuki Matthews (The Shins, Sufjan Stevens), which spent 8 weeks on the CMJ Top 200 and was named "Album of the Month" by Seattle Met. The songs on his latest album, *Pieces of Sky*, reflect his experiences of touring solo across the US, Japan, and Europe, and a year spent busking and people watching at SeaTac Airport.

The Port Angeles Fine Art Center gallery is located at 1203 E Lauridsen Boulevard, is free by donation and open 10am-4pm Thursday through Sunday. The Port Angeles Main Library is located at 2210 South Peabody Street. For more information about this and other upcoming programs at your library, visit www.nols.org, call the library at 360.417.8500, or email Discover@nols.org.



Tomo Nakayama to perform at Art in the Library opening reception, Saturday, January 11 at 6:30pm.



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