



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 22, 2018

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City Hall Gallery Features Prints by Jesús Cruz, Jr.

The Springfield Arts Commission is pleased to present an exhibition of work by artist Jesús Cruz, Jr. The show will run from September 1-30, 2018 with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m., Friday, September 14.

Cruz uses the technique of carving blocks of linoleum which are inked and run manually through a press to create linocuts with crisp lines and vivid imagery. Often combining figurative and abstract elements, Cruz's prints feature thick and solid fields of ink as well as degrees of gray and black.

"About 50 percent of my imagery relates to the Day of the Dead," Cruz said, referring to the Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 holiday in Mexico. "The rest is comprised of portraits, floral designs and whimsical characters. The Day of the Dead Imagery represents people and events in my life that I cherish."

Cruz will be available to discuss his artistic process at the reception, which is open to the community, and will also feature light refreshments and live music by Robert Meade.

Born and raised in Fontana, California, Cruz is a retired educator with 18 years of experience teaching kindergarten, which kept him involved with art on a daily basis. Cruz has exhibited his prints extensively, including at the California State Fair in Sacramento, the Riverside Art Museum, the Ontario Museum of History and Art and at Oregon State University.

Located on a 90-foot wall just outside the entrance to the Springfield Public Library, City Hall Gallery is seen by approximately 3,700 visitors each month. Since 1989, the gallery has featured monthly shows by regional artists chosen by the Springfield Arts Commission. The Commission issues a public call to artists each year. More information is available at www.springfieldartscommission.org

About Springfield Arts Commission

The Springfield Arts Commission promotes artistic and cultural richness and diversity in Springfield and assists in the preservation of the cultural heritage of the community as expressed through artistic endeavors. The Commission seeks to support opportunities for artistic creation, exhibits, performances and events, and to facilitate awareness, communication, education and collaboration to increase the

accessibility of the arts and art-related resources in the community. The nine-member volunteer Commission manages City Hall Gallery, administers the Heritage Arts Grant program, maintains Art Alley, a collection of outdoor murals, and supports youth arts programs in collaboration with the Springfield Public Library. The Commission is funded by City of Springfield room taxes.