

Bradbury Art Museum opens new “Legends” exhibition

The Bradbury Art Museum (BAM) is opening a new exhibition titled “Legends” showcasing a variety of art from comics, graphic novels and sculptures as well. “We wanted to bring comics and graphic novels to a population who might not think of themselves as fans for it,” Gary Holstein, Director of the Bradbury Art Museum, said.

The exhibition features a wide variety of comic sketches and graphic novels. But as all art does the exhibition has a deeper meaning behind it, “We wanted work that shows the process of making it, a nice mix of people who have been in the practice since underground comics were a thing as well as people who are making new media right now and we wanted to expand and bring in different types of media,” according to Holstein. The show features artists such as Trina Robbins the first woman to draw Wonder Woman, Peter Kuper the current artist for Spy vs. Spy and featuring an online comic Sarah Scribbles

by Sarah Anderson. Aside from print work the exhibition also brings in different types of art. Featuring ceramics, puppets, and costumes with interactive spaces to go along with them.

With comics and graphic novels being a different type of thing to feature, why did the museum choose these? Each year the museum hosts a program called “Inspired”. This is a show where high school students are invited to attend, pick out a piece of art and make a piece that is inspired by it. In the most recent Inspired show so many students picked a comic piece. Therefore, the museum thought why not do a whole show in response to their action.

While the show features many cool things that will catch the observer’s eye it also has educational purposes as well. Already multiple groups and classes are planning on visiting the museum, such as sculpture classes and graphic design classes. “This show brings together so many mul-

iple modes of making and not all shows can reach such a wide variety of students,” stated Holstein. Even the cover for the show featuring an alien astronaut was designed by a student, Lourdes Hernandez who was an intern at the museum through the graphic design program.

Along with educational opportunities for students the show is also encompassing many professionals as well. Sarah Hernandez, an A-State Alum, who now is an art teacher is working part time for the museum helping with this exhibition. “I think this is something that will cast a wide net. There will be a lot of lessons that can come from this and lots of ways we can tie in with the community. It is something everyone can have a relationship with,” said Hernandez.

To bring all this art together several different people had to be contacted to lend a helping hand. The exhibition was collaborated with Randy Duncan, Director of the Comic Studies Program at Henderson State

University, who helped obtain many of the pieces in the exhibition. Duncan helped the museum to connect with artists from around the world. “We reached out to different artists, told them about the idea, they were excited and so we selected pieces that fit the theme,” said Holstein. Some artists only create digital content, to make sure they were featured as well, the museum used the A-State Printing Shop to print their artwork yet again tying in the A-State community.

The exhibition has its grand opening on Wednesday, Sept. 15 at 5 p.m. and the exhibition will run until Dec. 8. The museum would love to invite all faculty, students and staff to come tour the museum and see all the hard work that has gone into it. For more information on the exhibit visit the museums website <https://bradburyartmuseum.org>.



Photos by: Jonathan Schaufler | News Editor
Art pieces featured in the “Legends” exhibit.

A-State student recounts her parent’s experience evacuating from Hurricane Ida

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Staff Writer

On Aug. 29, Hurricane Ida made landfall in Port Fourchon, Louisiana. For many Louisiana residents, this would not be the first time a major hurricane struck the state. 16 years ago to date, the infamous Hurricane Katrina hit, causing billions of dollars of damage and killing 1,800. This time however, Louisiana residents were far more prepared, and many fled the state.

Among the evacuees were the parents of A-State graduate student Abby Pucik, who stayed in Jonesboro until the storm passed. Gail and Don Pucik live in Covington, Louisiana. They evacuated on Aug. 28, heading for Jonesboro to stay with their other daughter.

“I was pretty worried for my parents because they live down in Covington, Louisiana, which is kind of close to New Orleans. I knew that the flooding would get pretty bad,” Pucik said.

Ida’s Category 4 winds reached a maximum of 150 mph, and flooding reached anywhere from 10-20 feet.

However, many of the state’s water levees survived, thus allowing the flooding to not be as damaging as Katrina.

“There was a lot of media coverage, so I think that helped out a lot. I think (the Louisiana government) did respond a lot quicker. I think after something like Katrina, they have a bunch of better standards set up on how they would respond,” Pucik said.

In addition, the storm left over one million Louisiana residents without electrical power, as damage to power lines was extensive.

“We have many mangled trees, but we have electricity! Power pole damage in our area was worse in Ida than in Katrina, Delta, and Zeta hurricanes combined,” Mrs. Pucik said.

The state suffered heavy infrastructure damage, and nearly all Gulf Coast oil production was shut down in response to the storm, causing a nationwide spike in gas and oil prices.

“(My parents) did mention that it was hard to get gas on the way out because a lot of gas stations were running out because people were getting gas for their generators and were trying to get gas for their cars so that

they could leave,” Pucik said.

Pucik didn’t originally know that her parents were planning on leaving Louisiana to come to Jonesboro. They returned home on Sept. 1. Their apartment did not suffer heavy damage.

“The streets around them were flooded and power lines were wrecked,” Pucik said. “It took about four or five days to get their power back.”

However, Louisiana still has a long way to go in terms of getting back to normal. Volunteers and relief groups are working tirelessly to get Louisiana and its citizens back on their feet.

“It’s easy once power is restored to want to get ‘back to normal’ and forget those still in need, but for many, life won’t be back to a new normal for quite a while,” Mrs. Pucik said.

Pucik’s father was confident in the capability of Louisiana residents to mend the damage. As destructive as Hurricane Ida was, it was not the first and will not be the last hurricane Louisiana faces.

“The people of Louisiana are resilient and given time, they will recover from Hurricane Ida,” Mr. Pucik said.



Photo courtesy of Abby Pucik
Storm damage of the Pucik house after Hurricane Ida



Gail and Don Pucik parents of Abby Pucik (Left), Abby Pucik (Right)
Photo courtesy of Abby Pucik and Rachel Rudd

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