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## Art feature: Chico's 1078 Gallery hangs MFA students' 'Wall Work'

By KYRA GOTTESMAN - The Buzz

Posted: 03/11/2010 12:00:00 AM PST  
CHICO -- The diverse works of MFA students from around the country are featured in "Wanted: Wall Work," a juried exhibit showing at the 1078 Gallery through March 20.

"We've had different themed juried shows over the past years but haven't done one since 2007 or 2008. A member of the exhibition committee suggested we do one that would bring in young people's work from Chico and beyond," said Thomasin Saxe, chair of the gallery's exhibition committee. "It certainly was in keeping with the gallery's mission to show artists who do not normally get shown."

Invitations for the juried show were sent to 150 MFA programs across the country in the fall of 2009. Submissions were received and then selected by juror John Baca, who received his BFA in sculpture from Chico State in 2005 and his MFA in digital media from the Rhode Island School of Design in 2007.

Baca, a one-time 1078 Gallery board member and long-time gallery supporter who now lives in Grass Valley, selected 25 works from 15 different MFA artists for the exhibition.

The works selected for the show come from MFA students in Chico as well as those from Hawaii, Ohio, New Mexico and beyond.

The media used in the exhibition pieces are as diverse as the geographic locations from which they

are generated.

"1078 Gallery has been open for 28 years and our commitment has been to show new and up-and-coming artists. MFA students are certainly that, and a juried show is a wonderful opportunity for them and gives them something great to add to their resumes," Saxe said.

Baca, who served not only as the show's juror but also its curator, selected Trevor Koch, a San Jose State MFA ceramics' student, as the show's first place winner. Koch has two mixed media pieces in the show -- "To Know The Feeling But Never The Words" and "One Thing Leads to Another." Second place went to Libo Li, a Kent State MFA ceramics' student whose 6-foot by 5-foot stoneware "Rice Face" is included in the show. Chico State University's Megan Moore, earning her MFA in printmaking, was chosen as the third place winner. Moore's two etchings, chine colle and beeswax works -- "Bubble Up Cell Up" and "Cells in Tree Form" -- are part of the exhibit.

"The gallery will be scheduling a one-person show for Trevor (Koch) as his first-place prize and then a two-person show with Libo (Li) and Megan (Moore) either this year or next," Saxe said. "This is a good, strong, lovely show."

The 1078 Gallery, at 820 Broadway, is open at 12:30-5:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. For information call 343-1973 or visit [www.1078gallery.org](http://www.1078gallery.org).

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