

CityBits

The Business Journal staff reports



Fine Arts Center

Mechau exhibit opens Saturday

The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center will open a major exhibition on Saturday, March 5, dedicated to the art of Frank Mechau (1904-1946).

Mechau, thought by many to be the finest Colorado artist of the 20th century, was closely linked to Colorado Springs and to the FAC's first decade.

This exhibition will explore Mechau's uniquely western vision through a selection of approximately 60 paintings, drawings and prints spanning the artist's career, and including "Wild Horses," the spectacular 5-foot-by-60-foot mural that he created on the FAC's courtyard wall during 1936.

Colorado native Mechau grew up on the Western Slope, studied in New York and Paris and eventually developed a refined, muscular regionalist style. He received multiple public art commissions in the 1930s, including two large-scale commissions for the Colorado Springs downtown Post Office. The paintings were installed in 1936, but were removed by the General Services Administration in 1961 after an interior remodel. One of them, the 5-foot-by-11-foot "Indian Fight," is the centerpiece of the exhibition. Other major works in the show include "Forest Fire," loaned by the Mechau family, and "Wild Horse Race," loaned by the American Museum of Western Art.

Mechau was the first Colorado artist awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship study grant, and he was among the first fellows allowed to use the award in the United States. In 1943, he spent the year on cattle ranches, traveling to rodeos and creating volumes of preparatory drawings for later paintings and murals.

— John Hazlehurst

ON THE HORIZON

Compiled by Marija B. Vader

Submit items for On The Horizon to events@csbj.com.

Tuesday, March 8

Buzz with the Bs

Better Business Bureau networking breakfast, \$13-\$16, 7:30-9 a.m., DMI Collision Center, 405 W. Fillmore. To register, go bbb.org/1Qu2ai2.

Wednesday March 9

Powerful women

Wine, Women and Chocolate, honoring powerful women from Colorado Springs' past and present, \$10, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Junior Achievement, 2320 W. Colorado Ave. To register, pikespeak-women.center@gmail.com.

March Madness

SBDG Business boot camp

Lunch-and-learn SBDG workshop, a starting point for budding entrepreneurs.

At the Pikes Peak Workforce Center

The Pikes Peak Workforce Center has 715 new job listings this week. Find them at connectingcolorado.com and research posted jobs. All PPWFC programs, free and open.