



City of
OAKLAND
California

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pollination, Oakland Style

Kevin Woodson's Watercolor Flowers at Oakland City Hall

Oakland, CA – Showcasing the pollinators of Oakland's spring, Oakland flower painter, Kevin Woodson, will exhibit a fresh collection of watercolors celebrating the cross-pollination of nature and culture as seen in the glory of flowers in his exhibit **Pollination, Oakland Style**. Oakland Public Works is sponsoring the exhibit as it offers a valuable perspective on the beauty in Oakland's gardens, their relation to pollinators, the culture that surrounds them, and the importance of pollinators that keep our food chain alive.

The environmental art exhibit will run June 1st through June 30th in Oakland City Hall, located at 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, on the third floor outside the City Council Chambers (wheelchair accessible). A reception for the artist will be held Friday, June 5th from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., with a special artist-hosted weekend viewing on Saturday and Sunday, June 6th and 7th, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The reception and weekend viewing are in conjunction with Oakland's First Friday Art Murmur and East Bay Open Studios weekend.

Oakland City Councilmember Lynette McElhaney shared, "I absolutely love Kevin's work. Everyone should experience the joy and love found in Kevin's paintings. Next best thing to being in the garden!" This degree of appreciation may come from the fact that Kevin Woodson exclusively paints flowers in the gardens where they grow. The artist stays true to his unique approach, forgoing photography, pencil, or cut flowers. What he captures – pollinator and flower – is a true dedication to nature, flowers, and their role in human culture. His work is exhibited in Oakland, the Bay Area, Asia, and Mexico.

Pollination, Oakland Style – Flowers thrive and nature evolves when plants cross-pollinate and every corner of our garden contributes. The culturally rich city that is Oakland thrives, and the world we live in is enhanced, when people share ideas and weave cultures. Gardens are one of the oldest locations for people, ideas, and nature to come together, and with today's climate changes, our garden pollinators are more important than ever. Oakland is a community rich in pollinator activity, home to the Oakland Pollinator Posse (follow them at Pollinator Posse on Facebook), many pollinator gardens, and a dedicated community that cares for them. **Pollination, Oakland Style** focuses on the magic that happens when we flower together.

For more information, visit www.kevinwoodson.com and www.oaklandpw.com.

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