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July 1, 2021  
**For Immediate Release**

**LOCAL FORMER LIBRARIAN'S ART ON DISPLAY  
AT WAUWATOSA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

*View Over 30 Original Paintings by John Suess Now Through July 31*

WAUWATOSA, WI– Beginning today, a collection of works by local artist and retired librarian, John Suess, are on display in the art gallery at the Wauwatosa Public Library.

Born and raised in Milwaukee, Suess, 73, has always had a passion for art. He began drawing and painting at the age of 3. After high school, he pursued a degree in commercial art at Milwaukee Area Technical College, but realized he was more interested in fine art instead. He eventually transferred to UW-Milwaukee where, after a brief stint in the Army Reserves, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in ancient history and a master's degree in library science.

Suess spent the next 34 years working in the Milwaukee Public Library system, with the majority spent at MPL-Central in the science and business department. There, Suess met his wife, Mary, who is also a retired librarian.

Since retiring in 2007, Suess has devoted his free time to playing golf, working in his award-winning garden, taking photographs and...painting. After his retirement, Suess has produced over 150 works of art, many of which he has sold, or gifted to family and friends.

Suess works primarily in acrylics and occasionally oils, and describes his style as expressionist, tonalism and color field. His favorite subjects are landscapes, especially local scenery.

"I find my inspiration outdoors. While working in my garden, playing golf, or taking a walk or drive, I will often be captivated by the beauty of nature and stop to capture it with my camera. Then, I'll make it come back to life on canvas," Suess said.

Suess has also completed several commissioned works. In 2019, Suess was commissioned by his parish, Christ King, to produce works in celebration of its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The largest of these paintings, *Christ the King*, a 30x40 acrylic on gesso board, is on permanent display on the southeast wall inside the church, while four others capturing the local church's iconic steeple as viewed during each season, are on display in the vestibule.

Suess' other recent showings include the Milwaukee County Parks, where a selection of his work featuring local golf courses was showcased in the clubhouses of such as Dretzka, Currie and Hansen and Redline Milwaukee, where Suess was featured as part of the Modern Landscape exhibition in 2018.

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“I’m grateful to the Wauwatosa Library for giving me the opportunity to display my art for the community to enjoy. This show was originally booked for last summer and after the year we have all had, it is nice to be able to visit places and interact with others again. It’s long overdue and I hope many will check it out,” Sues said, interjecting a little of his librarian humor.

Sues’ show marks the first time the Wauwatosa Library’s art gallery will be open in over a year due to the pandemic, but his collection is worth the wait.

Over 30 of his works are on display now through July 31 in the art gallery located on the first floor of the Wauwatosa Library, past the circulation desk. The pieces included in the show are a selection from Sues’ “Road Trips” series, featuring rural scenes from locations around southeastern Wisconsin such as Hartford, North Prairie and Kettle Moraine; a grouping of landscapes, many of which are also based on local vantage points; and a wide variety of florals.

The exhibit is free of charge and is open for viewing during regular library hours (Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; closed on Sundays).

Sues’ complete collection can be viewed on his website at [JohnSuessFineArt.com](http://JohnSuessFineArt.com) and fans can follow him on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). Many of his pieces are available for sale on [Etsy](#) and visitors to the library’s exhibit will enjoy special pricing on the works included in the show.

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