In The News

Artist exhibits images of Americana at Taber Gallery

Images of dolls, guns, antique furniture, clothing, yearbooks, toys and more comprise a new exhibit by Greenfield painter Kelly Popoff in the Taber Art Gallery at Holyoke Community College.

“At Home with Our Histories” opened this week and runs through Thursday, March 26, with Popoff hosting an opening reception and gallery talk at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 4.

According to Popoff, “At Home with Our Histories” is a series of works that examines images of Americana. The collection is “perhaps as an instinctive response to try to make sense of our current culture by looking back,” she says in her artist’s statement, “or maybe to find connections that may explain why our history seems so present and unresolved.

This series reflects my own, personal histories and a societal, American history. Through my work, I acknowledge that the social problems of today are deeply rooted in our past. Through this dialogue with history, I hope to contribute to the redirection of social, psychological and spiritual aspects of the future.”

The Taber Art Gallery is off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the Donahue Building on the campus at 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke. It is open to the public for free 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays during regular school sessions, or by appointment.

Popoff was born in Akron, Ohio, and lives and works in Greenfield. She holds a bachelor’s degree in fine arts in painting and ceramics from Miami University and a master’s degree in fine arts in painting from the University of North Carolina.

Her recent honors include a Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship in painting; the Clowes Fund Fellowship and Residency, Vermont Studio Center, in 2019; Millay Colony Fellow in 2018; the Artist’s Resource Trust Fellowship and Residency, Vermont Studio Center, in 2017; the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Grant in 2017; a Promise Award from the Sustainable Arts Foundation in 2016; and a Finalist Award from the Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship in 2016.

Recent solo shows include “At Home with Our Histories” at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, “O Children” at the Herter Gallery at the University of Massachusetts, and “Rock on Doily” at the Augusta Savage Gallery at the University of Massachusetts.

For more information, contact Amy Johnquest, director of the Taber Art Gallery, at 413-552-2614.