



For Immediate Release:

Monday, May 6th, 2019

FORGET ABOUT ART IN THE PARK – THIS ART IS IN THE AIRPORT.

Just as the Marshalltown Municipal Airport connects the world to Marshalltown, local artist, Melissa (Missy) Sharer-Pieters is connecting her art to the world. For its inaugural display, the airport is showcasing 16 of her acrylic paintings in the terminal lobby. The work will remain on the walls until Friday, August 30. They are available for viewing, Monday-Friday, 7:30 am until 6:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. The showing is through a partnership between the Arts & Culture Alliance and the Airport.

A little less than two years ago it was but a pipe dream. The Alliance Board of Directors knew it was a good idea but weren't quite ready to act on it. About that time, Steve Valbracht, Co-owner of Marshalltown Aviation, Inc., called Executive Director, Amber Danielson with the suggestion the Airport display the work of a local artist.

He spoke about the number of executives who fly into the airport for meetings with Marshalltown's national and international companies and figured showcasing a local artist would be a great way to promote the arts in the area. Danielson immediately agreed and plans were put in place.

"We are sincerely excited to work with the Arts and Cultural Alliance in featuring local talent in the terminal building. We're so proud to have the opportunity to showcase a local artist as well as share the story of the Alliance to visitors of our community," Valbracht stated. He is currently on the Alliance Board.

Sharer-Pieters, who was on the Alliance Board during this brainstorming process, quickly volunteered to be the first artist for the pilot phase of the program. "It's been such an honor to be involved as the debut artist. And it's so cool to be exhibiting at the airport which is such a hidden gem in this community. I'm excited to see the works of other area artists in the future."

Danielson says that if this exhibit proves successful, it will be rolled out to other local business locations and artists in the future. “We’re counting on people getting excited about this. It’s like taking a field trip to an art gallery only the art gallery at an airport.”

All Sharer-Pieters paintings are for sale.

The Marshall County Arts & Culture Alliance, a non-profit organization, was created in 2004 to cultivate a community of arts and culture by supporting, promoting and enriching existing opportunities and by seeking new possibilities. Located in Marshalltown, the Alliance also sponsors the annual Marshalltown Art Festival.

###

For more information, please contact Amber Danielson, Executive Director, Marshall County Arts and Cultural Alliance at 641-752-2787 or email: director@artsandculturalalliance.org.