

Living Opportunities Presents: Studio Sfumato

Studio Sfumato, a social enterprise of Living Opportunities, opened its doors in the fall of 2004, and provides an open, creative environment for artists with a variety of disabilities to explore, nurture, and expand their creative vision. Since its inception, Studio Sfumato's focus has been on assisting artists and artists-in-training find their artistic outlet, as well as cultivating a sense of self-worth through the creation and sale of their art.

This heightened sense of confidence is showcased by Studio Sfumato artist Mieke Ryneal, one of only 15 artists nationwide to receive the annual Award in Excellence from VSA Arts. Ryneal's works of art are currently being displayed at the Smithsonian Institute and Kennedy Center, and will commence a two-year tour of universities and colleges. Mieke, who calls the studio her "passion in life," is an excellent example of Studio Sfumato's ability to touch the lives of Rogue Valley artists living with disabilities.



Tree of Life by Mieke Ryneal

Many of Studio Sfumato's artists, including Mieke, are featured on the Studio Sfumato website, www.studiosfumato.org, which was designed and implemented in part with the generous financial support of the **Gordon Elwood Foundation**. The website was launched in the fall of 2007, and has been an instrumental platform for displaying artists' works and merchandise, announcing upcoming events, and providing information on Studio Sfumato to both potential artists and potential Studio Sfumato Members.

Studio Sfumato looks forward to the continued success of its artists, not only in the realm of praise and acknowledgement by national art institutions, but in the context of bolstered self esteem and an enthusiasm for the world of art.

For more information on Studio Sfumato, or to learn how you can become involved, please visit our website or contact Dan Mish at (541) 772-1503.