

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **“Fragile Worlds, Undiscovered Worlds”**

**Interact with Worlds Known and Unknown at Solano College’s Herger Gallery**

Solano Community College, School of Liberal Arts

October 18 through November 8, 2019

Herger Gallery, Building 1300 (next to theater)

4000 Suisun Valley Road

Fairfield, CA 94534

Solano Community College will host the first in a series of gallery exhibitions focused on the present status and future of our planet. **“Fragile Worlds, Undiscovered Worlds”** asked students to focus on our planet's fragility and seemingly endless string of crises as it stands in contrast with the relative stability, promise, and mystery of space.

An opening reception will be held at 4 p.m. on Oct. 18 at the Herger Gallery; the show runs October 18 - November 8 and is open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. Displayed work ranges from digital art and animation focused on outer space and the potential for life outside of Earth, to a wall-sized collaborative interpretation of Van Gogh’s *Starry Night*, to an interactive sculptural exhibit focused on the use and expression of space.

As we discussed themes for this show, we considered the Amazon rainforest fires, the rapid melting of the polar ice caps, and constant cultural and political strife, among so many other issues that plague our thoughts. How do we confront these events that feel so out of control? Often, we don’t — our responses to disturbing realities range from distraction to despair. The black hole becomes something the modern sensibility longs for — the absolute certainty of nothingness. We asked our students to create art that represents our planet, the possibilities of space and other forms of life, or their reactions to the current state of the world.

A portion of this exhibit is dedicated to Julianna Atkins-Young, a former student of Solano College Arts who ended her life during the summer. During her time at Solano College, Atkins-Young completed coursework in photography, painting, printmaking, digital arts, and more. Solano College Arts invites the public to bring a photograph or memory from a loved one to place on an *ofrenda*, an altar celebrating and paying respect to those who have passed.

If you are feeling emotionally distressed or are contemplating suicide, please

- Call the 24/7 National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) OR
- Text the Crisis Text Line: send CONNECT to 741741