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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Exhibits in YMCA Community Galleries Showcase Paintings and Mosaics

Northbrook, IL: February 2019 - Distinctive and unique mosaic artwork is the focus of a new exhibit in the North Suburban YMCA's Community Gallery beginning in February. Colorful pieces by Vernon Hills artist Vaiju Saraf will be on display, and are available for purchase, with a portion of proceeds supporting Visual Arts Programs at the Y. In addition, the exhibit in the Young Artist Display Case shows paintings by local teen Olivia Harris.

Vaiju decided to pursue her passion for art as a vocation following a long corporate career in the tech world. A love of painting was enhanced by travels to Turkey and Spain, where she was inspired to take up the creation of mosaic art. Her work reflects her deep attachment to nature, as well as her travel experiences. "I love to observe the obviously beautiful and sometimes quirky scenes of the places I travel to," she notes. "I traveled extensively during my corporate job, visiting about 20 countries. This gave me a broad, global outlook which I always try to include in my work."

The Y's Young Artist Display Case is filled with art by Olivia Harris, a 4th grade student at Shabonee School in Northbrook. Olivia's recent projects center on portraits, landscapes and ceramics. Acrylics and watercolors are her favorite materials but she enjoys exploring other media.

The Y's Community Gallery showcases the work of artists living and working in the northern suburbs in monthly exhibits. For information about the Gallery and other art programs at the Y, contact Cathie Winnie, cwinnie@nsymca.org.

About the [North Suburban YMCA](#)

Celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2018/19, the North Suburban YMCA provides individuals in Northbrook and 15 surrounding communities with programs and tools that help them become healthier, more connected, and confident, ensuring that everyone, regardless of age, income, or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. The NSYMCA focuses on Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility and is a charitable organization, inclusive and welcoming to all in our community. Learn more at NSYMCA.org.

(more)



Photo Caption: Paintings and mosaics by Vaiju Saraf are on display in February in the North Suburban YMCA's Community Gallery.



Photo Caption: Art by Shabonee School 4th grader Olivia Harris is on display in February in the North Suburban YMCA's Young Artist Display Case.