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**FEBRUARY FIRST FRIDAY AT OCEAN CITY CENTER FOR THE ARTS
OPENS SIX NEW ART SHOWS FREE TO THE PUBLIC**

OCEAN CITY, MD — *Jan. 31, 2025* — First Friday, Feb. 7, 2025 from 5-7 p.m., celebrates six new art shows in the galleries of the Ocean City Center for the Arts, 502 94th St. bayside, home of the Art League of Ocean City. PKS Investments is sponsoring the complimentary refreshments.

Golie Miamee displays her wide-ranging photographs in the main Thaler Gallery in a show entitled “Sand & Cedar.” An American-born Iranian-American artist who travels the world, Miamee considers herself a visual artist rather than a traditional photographer. She uses photographs as her canvas and digital editing as her main medium. “I strive to let the audience see the world as I see it through my lens,” she said.

“As soon as we moved to Ocean City, I became a member of the Art League right way,” Miamee continued. “It’s a great organization that gives artists a lot of visibility.”

At First Friday Miamee and her husband, Peter Elias, owners of Spain Wine Bar, will be providing tastings from the cuisine of their new restaurant, also named Sand & Cedar, opening soon in Ocean Pines. After Miamee’s show closes on March 1 at the Art League, her photographs will move to the new restaurant.

In February, the Sisson Galleria will feature a group art show titled “Complementary Colors,” showing works in all media where artists used colors across from each other on the color wheel. John Mosher, Associate Professor of Art at Salisbury University, is judging the show, and the Art League will award cash prizes to the winners.

Studio E in February features glass art by students from Salisbury University's Glass Studio. SU offers a Bachelor of Fine Art Glass Program that is one of only 30 in the country. Current students and recent graduates have gone on to earn MFAs, start their own glassmaking studios, and work in private studios and commercial factories. The group exhibits in top-tier galleries and museums around the world including the prestigious Corning Museum of Glass.

The Schwab Spotlight Gallery in February celebrates Black History Month and Ocean City's 150 Years of Smiles with a series of photographs taken from the archives of the Ocean City Life Saving Station Museum.

Kathy Heugel and Kacie Neeb share the Artisan Showcase in February. Heugel creates nature-inspired earrings in her home studio in South Bethany Beach. "My earrings are an extension of my love of color, texture, shape, and movement," she said.

Neeb, the Art League's Gallery Coordinator, began as a metalsmithing instructor at a premier summer camp where she taught the art of jewelry making and metal craft. "I have gravitated toward beading where I can explore color and creative adornments," she said.

Abi Lightner opens a six-month exhibit in the Burbage Staircase Gallery. Lightner has been developing her skills in digital art, and her love of writing goes hand-in-hand with her love of art. Her strengths lie in digital portraiture, character design, and storytelling through the art.

The Art League's satellite galleries continue their offsite art shows. Suzy Quader of Ocean Pines shows her pastel landscapes in the lobby of the Princess Royale Hotel at 9110 Coastal Hwy. Alexis McKenzie of Rehoboth Beach is the artist-in-residence at the Coffee Beanery at 94th St. and Coastal Hwy., showing her colorful and abstract mixed media.

Arts Center exhibits run through March 1. Satellite gallery exhibits continue through March 29.

The Ocean City Center for the Arts at 502 94th St. is open weekdays from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., weekends from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., and admission is always free. More information is available at OCart.org or by calling 410-524-9433.

The Art League of Ocean City is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the visual arts to the community through education, exhibits, scholarship, programs and community art projects. Funding for this event is in part provided by the Worcester County Arts Council, Maryland State Arts Council and the National Endowment of the Arts, organizations dedicated to cultivating a vibrant cultural community where the arts thrive.

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EDITORS: Image attached of Golie Miamee with her artwork.

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