

The Kenmore City Hall Gallery is pleased to present the work of Maren Oates, July 5-August 31, 2024. The gallery, co-sponsored by the Arts of Kenmore and the City, is located in the lobby of Kenmore's City Hall. The gallery is open Monday-Friday 9am-5pm and during public meetings and is free to attend.

Maren Oates is a self-taught, mixed-media artist trying to manage the chaos of motherhood through layers of color, texture, and thread. Her process begins by rolling acrylic paint onto a gel plate for printmaking. Before pulling a print, she'll press found objects into the paint, creating interesting marks and textures. She repeats this process to build several unique printed layers, often masking sections using hand-cut stencils or leaves from the garden. Some of these prints become material for collage, but many are finished with lines of machine or hand stitching.

Though she mainly sews on paper, Maren's work is influenced by the patterns, shapes, and colorful combinations in quilting designs. She also finds great inspiration, and interesting printing textures, from the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest.

Maren's artwork has been exhibited regionally at the Schack Art Center (Everett, WA), Parklane Gallery (Kirkland, WA), Jansen Art Center (Bellingham, WA), Arts at the Port (Anacortes, WA), Columbia City Gallery (Seattle, WA), and Edmonds Arts Festival Gallery. She regularly teaches workshops on gel plate printmaking through the Schack Art Center and Red Sky Gallery in Lake Forest Park.

Learn more about her work at marenoates.com.

Interested in showing in the gallery? We are currently booking for 2025 shows. Visit kenmorewa.gov/arts for submission information.

