

Close to Home: An Environmental Art Show

Miller Arts Scholars Mini-grant Outcome Report

Using mini-grant funding from the Miller Arts Scholars program at the University of Virginia, I created, curated, and organized a month-long community art show which featured 30 pieces of art created by 15 different local artists. I collaborated with a local small business, High Tor Gear Exchange, utilizing their shop space to show. By creating an art show in a non-institutional space and waiving all submission fees, I was able to lower the barrier to entry for both artists and art appreciators.



The exhibit connected the arts and outdoors communities of Charlottesville, VA and surrounding areas. By connecting environmental advocates with those inspired by nature, the show facilitated a dialogue of appreciation and conservation for our natural spaces.



The opening reception of the show had approximately 70 attendees. Best in show prizes (First, second, third) were awarded based on popular voting at the event. Free alcoholic beverages from local breweries and wineries were provided and it was a zero waste event. The show hung the entire month of March at High Tor Gear Exchange and gave artists the opportunity to sell their works.

In addition, the short documentary film which was funded by my fourth-year Miller Arts Scholas grant premiered at the show. The documentary, *Imprint: Printmaking and America's National Parks* was co-directed with a UVA Studio Art alumna, Sanjana Sekhar.

