TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH, 2026
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sent From:
Alexis Mixter, Marketing Coordinator, alexismixter@gmail.com

For Further Information, Contact:
Susan Aversa-Orrego, Artistic Director, susan@ctpmedford.org
www.ctpmedford.org

New Exhibition "BIRDS, BLOOMS, THE LIMITLESS SKY!" at Collier Gallery at CTP

Birds, Blooms, The Limitless Sky! *Every quilt has a Story*

November 20th through December 31st alongside the theatre's production of "*The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of A Christmas Carol"*
Opening reception is Saturday, November 21st at 4 PM or Sunday late afternoons by arrangement.

This show contains the stories of a combined 170 years of living. Featuring Martha Gentry, age 90, and Diana Rasmussen, age 80. Both had their beginnings on farms in the Midwest, where life was marked by hard work for survival, scarcity of unnecessary extras, caregiving for family, young and old, and wide-open skies to dream on!

Both women found a home in Oregon after many moves across the country, through marriage and child-centered years, and yet, always sewing to keep their creative heart center alive! Just like the Log Cabin quilt circles the red square hearth, they gathered their pieces, their passions, around the center story: "I am alive! I create! I make quilts to warm and welcome you home!"

Every quilt has a past! Whether it's an old traditional pattern or the past patterned into the fabric, using pieces of treasured garments or florals designed from century-old seed packets! The quilter may have chosen a familiar arrangement like a crazy quilt or a log cabin like the quilt a cousin has from their great-grandmother! Every quilt carries the past forward!

Every quilt has a Present! The quilter makes choices limited by her "stash," the availability of a nearby fabric shop, or the patience and planning to be ordering on the often disappointing World Wide Web! She also makes choices of arrangement of those fabric pieces: visualizing in her mind's eye or on a design board, placing and shifting and realizing, "Change in one small corner is tied to the entire world"! She also learns the unwritten lesson of color: that a color she dislikes or avoids, used in small bits, will "spark" all her favorites, like gold in a sea of claret, reds, and maroons!

Quilt lessons are lessons of life.

Every quilt has a Future! Perhaps it's a gift to mark an occasion, celebrate an anniversary, a graduation, or retirement ... to welcome in a new family member with a wedding or the birth of a baby! Perhaps it's a "healing" blanket made to encourage life-affirming joy for someone recovering from injury or illness. Most quilts, with care, will live on into another generation and carry their story forward! Martha and Diana sincerely hope you will find a quilt to take home to become part of your story! Their lives continue in the quilts they've made, and that's a legacy of love enduring!

Special arrangements to purchase can be made with Martha Gentry at 541-772-7403, or Diana Rasmussen at 541-292-6152. Discounts or payment plans will be considered for those friends who have made prior purchases with them!

Reminder: A portion of the sale of quilts exhibited here is donated to support The Collaborative Theatre Project.

About the Collier Gallery at CTP

Currently, the Collaborative Theatre Project is the only theatre space in Southern Oregon that features visual art exhibitions in conjunction with its main stage productions. Beginning with its first performance in 2017, the organization envisioned a space to promote local artists by offering a venue for artists to exhibit their artwork, to grow their clientele, and to contribute to the overall creative atmosphere at the Collaborative Theatre Project. The Collier Gallery at CTP was generously provided by James Morrison Collier.

About the Collaborative Theatre Project

The mission of the Collaborative Theatre Project is to offer quality professional theatrical productions supporting local artists, community outreach and educational programs, and to enhance the lives of members of our community through exposure to performing and visual arts.

About the Show

The Farndale Avenue Housing Estate Townswomen's Guild Dramatic Society's Production of A Christmas Carol

November 19 - December 31

By David McGillivray and Walter Zerlin Jr.
Based (loosely) on the novel by Charles Dickens
Directed by Karen Moore

With a title like that, what more can we say? The ladies of the Farndale Avenue Housing Estate mount an assault on the classics with their stage version of A Christmas Carol. Enthusiasm is

their middle name, and with the support of their long-suffering stage manager, Gordon, the cast presents a dizzy array of characters from the Dickensian holiday favorite. No Farndale evening would be quite complete without the wayward touches of ingenuity for which the ladies are so justly famed. You won't want to miss this unforgettable spectacle of sparkling wit and hilarity. It's a dramatic massacre of Dickens and a holiday delight you will long remember! Suitable for everyone with a delicious sense of humor.

This play is suitable for anyone who loves to laugh!