Canadian Foothills, paintings by artist Denise Lemaster will be exhibited from July 30 to November 30, 2014. The paintings will then travel to The Nicolaysen Art Museum in Casper, Wyoming for exhibition Jan. 30 - May 17, 2015. The American debut of the Canadian artist’s paintings will be commemorated with a 20-page exhibition catalog.

This is the museum’s first exhibition of work by an artist from outside the U.S. The Nicolaysen Art Museum and Bone Creek Museum have joined together to tell Lemaster’s story through art that reflects the natural landscape and celebrates agrarian life.

Canadian Foothills captures a variety of terrain in the mountains and plains surrounding Calgary, British Columbia. Lemaster paints the landscape of Canada with reverence. She hopes that people will remain connected to the land by enjoying and conserving the natural landscape. Through painting she celebrates the beauty of Canada’s wild land and glorifies it without leaving her own footprint.

The artist constantly learns and experiments with neutral to bright colors and light. By furthering her art through en plein air (painting outdoors) Lemaster creates a sense of immediacy and connection to the natural world.

The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this program through its matching grants program funded by the Nebraska Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Visit www.nebraskaarts council.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization, or how you can support the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

The Stephen Lowe Gallery and Butler County Arts Council have provided support for this program.

A reception for Canadian Foothills will be held Saturday, Sept 13 at 5:30 pm at Bone Creek Museum. Visit bonecreek.org for more information.
**CALANDER OF EVENTS**

13 **SEP**
Canadian Foothills by Denise Lemaster through Nov. 30

14 **AUG**
Reception: 5:30, Prairie Grass Portraits, Kristine Alphin Brakenhoff and presentation Gardening with Nature in Mind, Bob Heinrickson

01 **SEP**
Deadline for submitting your historic farm photographs to ckobza@bonecreek.org

13 **SEP**
Bone Creek Museum board meeting 1:00 pm

01 **SEP**
Bone Creek Museum board meeting 1:00 pm

**Message from the Director**

The photograph of the farmer with his team is of my father Vaaclav Kobza and is set in circa 1940 Saunders County, Nebraska. If you’re like me, you would enjoy the experience of an artist being inspired by it to create new works of art.

**The Farm: Then, Now, Tomorrow**

The museum will create a collaborative program built on the stories of your old family farm photographs interpreted through the creativity and vision of artists. The result will be an exhibition that tells the story of agrarian life – as it once was, as it is now and as we envision it to be in the future.

You can become part of this project. Please submit digital or photocopied historic images of farm life to be considered to ckobza@bonecreek.org or mail them to Bone Creek Museum in David City. We need your photographs by September 1.

This project is supported in part by an award from Mid-America Arts Alliance (M-AAA) to Bone Creek Museum and the Peter Kiewit Foundation.

**Became a sponsor**

The museum is now seeking funds of $13,000 from various corporate and individual sponsors to match a portion of the grants it has received. Please consider partnering with Bone Creek Museum, M-AAA, and the Peter Kiewit Foundation on this important exhibition, complementary outreach and education programs. To discuss benefits of sponsorship, please contact me by email at ckobza@bonecreek.org or 913.362.4929.

**PRAIRIE GRASS PORTRAITS**

Kristine Alphin Brakenhoff will discuss her fine art batik at a reception at Bone Creek Museum Thursday, August 14 at 5:30 pm. Brakenhoff has been working in fine art batik since 2011. “It didn’t take long to realize these prairie grasses, like the river, were the perfect subject to be expressed in this unpredictable medium of batik,” said Kristine. Prairie Grass Portraits is on display at Bone Creek Museum through November 2.

**IMAGES:**

Top: Joseph Masek, photograph, Saunders County, NE, circa 1930. Bottom: Samuel Butler Farm, Butler County, NE, circa 1900.

**DALE NICHOLS CORNER**

Dale Nichols’ paintings were influenced by fond memories of his childhood on the farm in Nebraska.

“Farm life was all I knew for the first 20 years of my life. In painting these canvases, I felt again the vastness of endless skies, experienced again the penetrating cold of Nebraska winters, lived again as farmers live...in spirit, I am very much a farmer,” Nichols said.

Bone Creek Museum’s catalog, Dale Nichols: Transcending Regionalism is the first ever printed collection of the artist’s work and was published by Bone Creek Museum. It is available for purchase at bonecreek.org or at the museum.

**Shop**

Bone Creek Museum’s catalog can be purchased at $34.99 + tax, S&H.

**bonecreek.org**

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**Top:** Joseph Masek, photograph, Saunders County, NE, circa 1930. **Bottom:** Samuel Butler Farm, Butler County, NE, circa 1900.