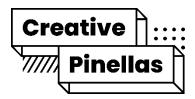
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Creative Pinellas and St. Pete–Clearwater International Airport Open New Sightline Gallery with Inaugural Exhibition: *Made in the Shade*

(Clearwater, FL) – Creative Pinellas is proud to announce the grand opening of Sightline Gallery, an exciting new exhibition space located at St. Pete–Clearwater International Airport (PIE), 14700 Terminal Blvd, Clearwater, FL 33762.

Sightline is designed to showcase the unique cultural experiences and art offerings available to Pinellas County visitors and residents, while providing connections and engagements to PIE's 2.5 million passengers each year. Exhibitions will rotate three times throughout the year, and may feature performances as well as visual exhibitions.

This new initiative exemplifies Creative Pinellas' mission to uplift Pinellas County artists while providing opportunities for visitors to enjoy unique arts experiences throughout the region.

An opening reception for the gallery's inaugural exhibition, *Made in the Shade*, will take place on Tuesday, April 29 at 3:30 PM; the exhibition will run through August 15, 2025.

"Whether welcoming or sending off passengers from PIE, we want to surround them with one of the reasons Pinellas is so special, our amazing arts scene. Adding to our vibrant art collection with exhibitions by Creative Pinellas is the cherry on top of our PIE!" stated Michele Routh, Airport Public Relations Director.

Made in the Shade, curated by Katherine Gibson of Arthouse3, explores Florida's vacation culture and the bounty of natural elements found throughout from the Sunshine State through the perspective of Florida-based artists — offering a fresh look at how art can elevate everyday experiences, even in transit. This exhibition brings together nature, relaxation, and creative expression, spotlighting how artists interpret the environment we live and vacation in.

"We're proud to unveil Sightline Gallery as a vibrant gateway to the region's creative spirit. PIE, with its murals and thoughtful stewardship of the County's public art collection, is more than just a transit point—it's a cultural touchpoint," said Margaret Murray, Creative Pinellas CEO. "With Sightline, we are able to further celebrate local artistry and offer travelers a unique and inspiring welcome to our region."

Featured artists include:

- Elizabeth Barenis, a St. Petersburg-based painter known for serene, meditative abstractions that invite stillness and introspection.
- **Matthew Drennan Wicks**, a sculptor whose work blends traditional craft with modern narrative and material history.
- **Babette Herschberger**, a ceramicist whose vividly hued compositions explore the relationship between structure and organic forms.

Through an infusion of new arts experiences in the airport, travelers are invited to engage with the region's creative culture, adding to a rich and memorable travel experience.

For local artists, *Made in the Shade* provides a valuable opportunity to showcase their work to a broad audience, including travelers from across the globe. The exhibition not only enhances their visibility but also opens the door to potential sales and deeper engagement with collectors and art appreciators outside of traditional gallery settings.

Creative Pinellas would like to extend special thanks to Duncan McClellan Gallery for resource support allowing the gallery to create a dynamic presentation of sculptural works.

In addition to curating Sightline Gallery at PIE, Creative Pinellas will expand its portfolio of services to include the care and maintenance of the County's public art collection at PIE.

To learn more, visit <u>creativepinellas.org</u> or follow us on social media @CreativePinellas

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About Creative Pinellas: Art Uplifts Humanity

We Uplift Art and Artists Across Pinellas County. Creative Pinellas is a 501(c)(3) arts and cultural organization established in 2011 as the designated Local Arts Agency for Pinellas County.

In collaboration with Visit St. Pete-Clearwater and Pinellas County, Creative Pinellas promotes Pinellas County as a premier arts and cultural destination. The organization manages a 10,000-square-foot gallery located at Pinewood Cultural Park.

Creative Pinellas supports artists through direct project funding, commissions, and opportunities, while fostering arts education by funding arts camp attendance for Pinellas County youth. The organization also collaborates with municipalities across the region on impactful public art projects.

The mission of Creative Pinellas is to foster and sustain a vibrant, inclusive, and collaborative arts community throughout Pinellas County. By providing support, connections, and

opportunities to artists, organizations, and the public, Creative Pinellas helps establish Pinellas County as an internationally recognized arts and cultural destination.

As the Local Arts Agency, Creative Pinellas and its programs are funded by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, Visit St. Pete-Clearwater, and sales of the State of the Arts specialty license plate in Pinellas County.

Learn more at <u>www.creativepinellas.org</u>.