



COE CENTER

Ralph T. Coe Center for the Arts
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What: Hands-On Curatorial Program opens *in the woods, is perpetual youth exhibition*
When: Friday, May 12, 2023, @ 5:30 pm
Where: Ralph T. Coe Center for the Arts
1590 B Pacheco Street, Aspen Plaza
Santa Fe, NM 87505

March 16, 2023. The Ralph T. Coe Center for the Arts *Hands-On Curatorial Program* is in the midst of its ninth year of working in collaboration with high school students across Santa Fe. This year's curators are Evangeline (Eva) Miranda, Gabe Castillo, Toby Servoss, and Net De La Riva from New Mexico School for the Arts and Himaja Sunkara from Santa Fe High School. Their exhibition, titled *into the woods, is perpetual youth*, is framed by these guiding questions and connections:

Who and what do you see around you? How can you appreciate nature to its fullest extent?

How does your relationship with nature affect your everyday life? How familiar are we with the world around us, and how deep are these connections?

Our search has led us here—to a collection of pieces that spark our individual familiarities ablaze with their interpretations of life and nature. Each piece holds a specific relationship to the earth, sea, and sky and all inspire adoration.

We saw these connections through the many materials used to craft each item. Ranging from jade, bone, and ivory to porcupine quills and black ash, these phenomenal artists found thoughtful, creative, and skillful ways of incorporating natural materials into their work.

For us, growing up, the earth was cleaner, with more parks, plants, and freedom. Nature nurtures kids and breeds community. We hope this exhibition gives you something to think about. Perhaps if we were all more thoughtful we would not suffer such loss.

The Ralph T. Coe Center for the Arts *Hands-On Curatorial Program* student exhibition, *in the woods, is perpetual youth*, opens on May 12, 2023, and closes on July 10, 2023.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The *Hands-On Curatorial Program* provides an opportunity for high school students to work hands-on with the Coe Collection of over 2,500 works of Indigenous art from around the world. Through museum visits, working and meeting with professionals in the art world, and weekly sessions from October to May, the curators work individually and collectively, learning how to create their own exhibition from the ground up using the Coe Collection. These young curators select and research the objects, write exhibition and catalog texts, create the press release, design the exhibition installation, graphics, and interact with our visitors, and more—all skills which help prepare them to succeed in any endeavor, from creating art to creating a business.

"In the woods, is perpetual youth...". Emerson, R.W. (1926). *The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson*. Current Opinion Edition. New York, Wm. H. Wise.

The Coe Center explores and connects through experiencing the world's Indigenous Arts.

The Coe Center creates awareness, education, and appreciation of Indigenous Arts. We connect people and art through inclusive hands-on experiential learning and partnering. In this, we responsibly steward a diverse and eclectic collection of world Indigenous Art that supports community narratives.