

Seventh annual Project Connect Niagara scheduled for July 20

Project Connect Niagara, an event designed to connect those in need with critical services in a “one-stop” venue, will return from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 20, at Heart, Love & Soul Food Pantry and Dining Room in Niagara Falls. The event will be presented by Fidelis Care & Niagara’s Choice Federal Credit Union.

Project Connect Niagara aims to bridge the knowledge gap between the community

resources provided by many organizations and residents that can benefit from these programs and services. The event is designed for attendees to engage with many of the 40-plus resources on-site, including employment opportunities, social services, legal advice and medical services.

Safety measures will be in place to protect all in attendance. Vaccinations for COVID-19 and other diseases will be available on-site,

as will masks for attendees. Lunch will be provided, along with a gift card to those participating in the event.

In previous years, as many as 300 attendees have accessed these free services and information while receiving free on-site health services and referrals. The event has been held annually since 2016, aside from 2020, when care packages were provided to residents due to the pandemic.

The Niagara County Coalition for Services to the Homeless presents the event. Project Connect Niagara aims to form a partnership between community volunteers, city government, nonprofits and the private sector to provide this “one-stop-shop” of health and human services for those in need in Niagara Falls.

For more, email projectconnectniagara@gmail.com or call 716-282-5687.

‘Living Through War’: Works from Kharkiv by contemporary Ukrainian artist Bella Logachova at Castellani Art Museum

The Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University has announced a new slate of work.

“War is destructive to people and their cultural heritage. ‘Living Through War: Works from Kharkiv by Bella Logachova’ is a reaction against the war in Ukraine,” a press release noted. “Each work gives unique insight into the perspective of an artist living through the violence and destruction of her homeland.

“With this exhibition, the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University strives to bring empathy and awareness to the war in Ukraine while supporting an artist and her country embroiled in conflict.”

“Living Through War” is sponsored by KeyBank in partnership with First Niagara Foundation.

CAM will exhibit nineteen of Logachova’s artworks from the ARTNUO (New Ukrainian Ornaments) Series, produced from 2014-22, along with a video of the artist. The exhibition will be on view Thursday, July 28, with an opening reception from 4:30-7:30 p.m. RSVP is required. The first hour is for



Bella Logachova, DNR (Donetskaya Narodnaya Respublika) from the ARINUO (New Ukrainian Ornaments) Series, 2022, archival print, courtesy of the artist and Sabine Kutt Photography. Image provided by the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University.

and narrative digital images. Through her intricate works,

she describes various international events, including the current conflict in Ukraine starting with the 2014 Revolution of Dignity.

“Each work is a documentary story told by means of ornament. War time is difficult... but we need to do something, to create new things – it’s our responsibility,” Logachova was quoted as saying.

Logachova is a Ukrainian artist and photographer born in Mari-

upol in 1973. She graduated from the Kharkiv State Academy of Design and Art, where she currently teaches media arts. She is a co-founder of SOSka art group, including the Excess film group, in Kharkiv. She has exhibited her work throughout Europe and Ukraine.

CAM added, “Bella Logachova received wide recognition after the presentation of posters titled ‘ARTNUO – New Ukrainian Ornaments’ at the IX International Triennale ‘4th Block’ in 2015, for which she received the Grand Prix award of the festival.”

This exhibition at NU will be curated with Kutt of Sabine Kutt Photography. She is a photographer, art curator, choreographer and ballet master who was born and raised in East Germany and has resided in the U.S. since 2001. Kutt curates international exhibitions and special events, and currently represents women artists, including Logachova.

“The natural, joyful elements of the embroidery stand in sharp contrast to the military symbols Bella Logachova inserts into her

images. Her art is like news. She is one of the few artists who are able to immediately implement what she has experienced in a creative way,” Kutt was quoted as saying.

Exhibition partner The Dnipro Ukrainian Cultural Center in Buffalo is providing project support, and lending traditional Ukrainian needlework for visual reference. The gallery will feature a QR code that allows CAM visitors to donate directly to Dnipro’s Ukrainian humanitarian and medical aid charity fund. From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, July 30, CAM will host a special Ukrainian Community Day of programming for Dnipro Center members (and the public) to visit “Living Through War.”

The Print Center (Philadelphia), in partnership with CAM, will feature a Logachova work during August as part of its “Windows on Latimer” series. It will also offer Logachova prints for sale; the artist will direct proceeds to support Ukraine. The Print Center, founded in 1915, represents printmaking and photography as vital contemporary arts, and is recognized as an international voice in print.

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