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The Mesa Community College Art Gallery grand opening exhibition, dedication and reception were held 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 1833 W. Southern Ave., Mesa (near MCC Theatre). The reception, with light refreshments and entertainment, began at 6 p.m. with dedication remarks at 6:30 p.m. (Video above and below by Richard H. Dyer, Mesa Independent)

Dr. Shouan Pan and Doyle Burke speak about new Mesa Comm... ()





In video above, Dr. Shouan Pan, Mesa Community College president; and Doyle Burke, Maricopa Community College District board member, speak about the new Mesa Community College Department of Art's art gallery the evening of Feb. 24.

Other speakers were Dr. Roger Yohe, interim vice president of academic affairs; Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick, interim MCCCD chancellor; Sarah Capawana, chairwoman of the MCC Art Department; Mesa Vice Mayor Dennis Kavanaugh; and Jared Langkilde, MCC director of development.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on the northwest corner of the building.



The grand opening at the Mesa Community College Art Gallery. (Photo by Richard H. Dyer, Mesa Independent)



The grand opening at the Mesa Community College Art Gallery. (Photo by Richard H. Dyer, Mesa Independent)

Funded by \$2 million in a 2004 bond, the gallery is a 4,600-square-foot multimedia facility to showcase student, faculty and guest artist works in a variety of mediums including watercolor, ceramics, photography and electronic media. The facility was specifically designed as a learning lab for students for areas such as art management and gallery design. The gallery also provides an opportunity for the college to collaborate with local, state and national artists to share their knowledge and work with the community.

A "Fifty Years of Collecting" exhibition will run through Friday, March 25. Admission is free. Gallery viewing hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Group tours are available by contacting Jennifer Campbell at 480-461-7294.

Managing Editor Richard Dyer can be contacted at 480-982-7799, via e-mail rdyer@newszap.com or at twitter.com/rhdyer.

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