

## **“Journeys & Distances” art exhibit will be part of September 18 open house at Dearborn’s Ford Community & Performing Arts Center**

**DEARBORN**, Mich. – The September 18 open house at Dearborn’s Ford Community & Performing Arts Center will feature a special art exhibition at the Padzieski Art Gallery, the free public art gallery located in The Center.

The open house is open to anyone who lives in Dearborn, or who works at a business located in Dearborn. It takes place from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, September 18. All events that are part of the open house are free that day.

**The event is open only to Dearborn residents, and those who work at any business located in Dearborn.** The Center is located at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Greenfield Road.

The open house will offer visitors free use of its indoor pools and extensive fitness area, as well as a daylong lineup of great live music, and performances by local dance and gymnastic groups, prize drawings, and more.

A featured part of the open house will be the Padzieski Gallery’s new art exhibition, entitled *Journeys & Distances*. The exhibit commemorates the opening, earlier this year, of the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn.

The Gallery is located in The Center.

*Journeys & Distances* is a project of a group of artists belonging to the group called “OTHER: Arab Artists Collective Detroit.” The artists from OTHER exhibiting their works are Radfan Alqirsh, Mohamad Bazzi, Imad Hassan, Joe Namy and Lana Rahme; additional exhibiting artists are Hassan Algassid, Adnan

Charara, Christina Dennaoui, Sarah Khazem, Michael Mansour and Jackie Salloum.

*Journeys & Distances* will address the concept of immigrants in a constant state of journey. Through emigration, displacement, or the search for a better existence, people's lives become linked to the old and the new. They live in a state of transformation resulting from the hybrid merging of cultures, values and places, physically and emotionally migrating back and forth in search of their identities.

There's no cost to view the exhibit. The public is also invited to attend the exhibit's free opening reception, taking place from 7-9 p.m. on Thursday, September 15. Refreshments and entertainment will be provided.

The public can view the art exhibit at the Padzieski Gallery through Saturday, November 5.

For information on this exhibit, or about the Padzieski Gallery, call **313.943.3095**, or visit [www.DCACarts.org](http://www.DCACarts.org), or [www.otherart.org](http://www.otherart.org).

Also part of the September 18 Center open house will be drawings for prizes, such as a mountain bike. The City of Dearborn Souvenir Store will be selling souvenir Dearborn merchandise items at the open house. Anyone making a purchase will be entered into a drawing to win a gift basket valued at \$100.

Tours of The Center will be offered throughout the day. Additionally, guided van tours around The Center campus will be offered from 1 to 3 p.m.

Open house visitors will also enjoy refreshments, provided courtesy of Shield's.

For more about The Center, visit [www.dearbornfordcenter.com](http://www.dearbornfordcenter.com). For more about the City of Dearborn, visit [www.cityofdearborn.org](http://www.cityofdearborn.org).

**ARTWORK CAPTION**: A sample of the artwork that will be on display during the “Journeys & Distances” exhibit at the Padzieski Art Gallery.

*[NOTE ~ If you did not receive copies of the photographs that accompany this news release, and would like them, call Randy Coble at (313) 943-2347.]*

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center open house, gallery exhibit sept 2005