

John Michael Kohler Arts Center



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 6, 2023 Sheboygan, WI



Artwork by Ka Oskar Ly exhibited in *Cloth Origins: Textiles from the HMong Journey* at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center. Photo courtesy John Michael Kohler Arts Center.

John Michael Kohler Arts Center Hosts Community Celebration of HMong Textile Art, Nov. 18

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center will mark the opening of two exhibitions exploring contemporary and traditional HMong art with a free community celebration Saturday, Nov. 18, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Festivities will feature entertainment, demonstrations, and conversation. Light refreshments will be available. At 2:00 p.m., the artists will give welcome remarks.

The exhibition *Cloth as Land: HMong Indigeneity*, on view Nov. 18 through June 16, 2024, features artwork by three contemporary Hmong artists and works from JMKAC's collection of Hmong textiles. HMong Indigeneity lives in *teb chaws*—land, country, and place. For a people without *teb* or *chaws*, however, where has HMong Indigeneity gone when it is still very much alive? This exhibition gives form to HMong Indigeneity by looking at kinship through cloth as land.

Cloth Origins: Textiles from the HMong Journey, on view through Jan. 14, 2024, unravels ancient textile practices rooted in human connections, landscapes, and ancestral wisdom that nourish people through kinship.

Special guests at the celebration will include curator Pachia Lucy Vang; artists Ger Xiong/Ntxawg Xyooj, Pao Houa Her, Tshab Her, Kaying Yang of RedGreen Rivers, Xao Yang Lee, and Ka Oskar Ly; and exhibition graphic designer Christina Vang.

Find out more about the exhibitions and the celebration at jmkac.org or call (920) 458-6144. This event is free and open to all ages. Reservations are requested but not required and can be made at jmkac.org/events.

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center is located at 608 New York Ave. in downtown Sheboygan.

Cloth as Land: Hmong Indigeneity is funded by grants from the Henry Luce Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Terra Foundation for American Art, Travel Wisconsin, and Wisconsin Humanities, with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Additional support provided by the Kohler Trust for Arts and Education, Ruth Foundation for the Arts, the Frederic Cornell Kohler Charitable Trust, Kohler Foundation, Inc., and the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Contact

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About the John Michael Kohler Arts Center

Founded in 1967, the John Michael Kohler Arts Center (JMKAC) is dedicated to generating creative exchanges between an international community of artists and a diverse public. Central to its mission is promoting understanding and appreciation of the work of self-taught and contemporary artists through original exhibitions, commissioned works of art, performing arts, community arts initiatives, and publications.

The Arts Center's collection focuses primarily on works by artist-environment builders, self-taught and folk artists, and works created in the Arts/Industry residency program. JMKAC is the world's leading center for research and presentation of artist-built environments.

In June 2021, the Arts Center opened the Art Preserve, a satellite campus highlighting its collection of 25,000 individual works of art by more than 35 art-environment builders. The Art Preserve features immersive displays of art environments and curated visible storage of environment components. It also serves as a resource for research on art environments and the artists who create them.

Admission to both the Arts Center and the Art Preserve is free. For more information, call 920-458-6144, or visit jmkac.org, [Facebook](#), or [Instagram](#).

The John Michael Kohler Arts Center is supported by corporate and foundation donors, government grants, and its many members. The Arts Center is not an entity of Kohler Co. or its subsidiaries.

Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday: 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Locations

John Michael Kohler Arts Center: 608 New York Avenue, Sheboygan, WI

Art Preserve: 3636 Lower Falls Road, Sheboygan, WI