

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jeff Milo, FADL Art & Exhibitions Committee

jeffmilo@ferndalepubliclibrary.org

Joseph Ferraro Photography Exhibition

Hosted at Ferndale Library

Reception/Meet The Artist

on Thurs., Apr 2

6 pm-8 pm

222 E. Nine Mile Rd

248-546-2504

More info - <https://www.facebook.com/events/198660001498500/>

Local Photographer Reveals ‘Overlooked World’ of Native Pollinators and Invertebrates

Joseph Ferraro’s Works on Display at Ferndale Library, March 16-May 11; Reception on April 2

FERNDALE, Mich. (March 4, 2020)-- Joseph Ferraro is a macro photographer walking the naturalist’s path, documenting native pollinators and other invertebrates. A new exhibition at the Ferndale Library features Ferraro’s beautiful and meticulous examinations of some of the smallest (and often very integral) beings inhabiting our planet. On Thu., Apr. 2, the library’s Art & Exhibitions Committee will host a reception where you can meet the artist; the works can be viewed starting Mar. 16 and will be on display through May 10.

“Over time,” Ferraro said, “I have also developed a subtle style that viewers find familiar, aesthetically raising these photos beyond what a scientist would typically document and display. At the same time, these images highlight the natural beauty of the subjects, pushing past the viewers’ aversions to most insects, inspiring them to appreciate their beauty.”

Ferraro’s artistic work merges his love of gardening and science with his photography prowess. His photographs are an extension of Ferraro’s reverence for the natural world, while also nourishing his natural curiosity about the world around him, and sustaining a poignant connection to his past. “At a young age, I regularly had my hands and feet in the dirt, helping my grandmother and mother plant and tend the gardens. Before my macro photography days, you could find me in my garden connecting to the earth while tending it for food, flowers, and tranquility. This all changed one day when I photographed a tiny native bee in my garden and realized that I had no idea what it was.”

Ferraro has found several fascinating and beautiful subjects nestled in random patches of nature in urban milieus, ever vigilant to never harm them or take them out of their environment. Though they may be insects, Ferraro approaches his subjects with the engaging and conscientious attentiveness akin to a portrait photographer, capturing their unique personalities and habits. The vivid images on display at the Ferndale Library were achieved with Ferraro’s hand-held camera rig, with a custom self-designed flash diffuser. You’ll see intimate moments in the lives of these pollinators, which Ferraro obtained only after a tender and considerate amount of time quietly observing them, eventually permitting him intimate proximity, wherein he carefully considers color, form, composition, and lighting.

Ferraro printed these portraits on handmade birch wood panels that show the natural grain--a process he developed specifically for his macro series. The Ferndale Library’s reception for Ferraro’s photography exhibition begins at 6 pm on Thu. Apr. 2.

###