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## **Upcoming art exhibition challenges status quo of social injustice**

***Hidden in Plain Sight***, an exhibition by artist Kelly Parks Snider, opens Monday, January 25, 2016, in the Stiemke Studio at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater with a talk by the artist, a panel discussion and performance. Doors open at 5:30 pm and the program begins at 6:15. The opening event is free and open to the public.

Parks Snider's exhibition explores the often-invisible truths that exist in society about power and privilege, inequality and injustice. She uses visual media narratives, collage, and steel and wood sculpture to comment on highly charged issues. "My idea is to agitate for the relevance of issues that make us uneasy and, in that way, to embrace change, to stay open to the possibilities," says Parks Snider, who plans to promote change by having a voter registration table at the opening.

The artist connected with respected writers and scholars who regularly comment on racial justice and equity to inspire her artwork. A group of them will participate in a discussion at the opening about the intersection of art and commentary, providing insights on the topics of ***Hidden in Plain Sight***.

Panelists joining Parks Snider for the discussion include Jacquelyn L. Boggess, Director of the Center for Family Policy and Practice; David Pate, Associate Professor in the Helen Bader School of Social Welfare at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee; and Matthew Rothschild, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign and past editor of *The Progressive* magazine. Also participating on the panel is Milwaukee-based community organizer Astar Herndon.

The collaborative, multi-generational evening continues with performance art by experimental spoken word musician WebsterX and film directors Damian Klaven and Cody LaPlant, all rising stars on the local and national music scenes.

The ***Hidden in Plain Sight*** exhibition and performance program is part of a collaboration with the Bronzeville Arts Ensemble and Theatre LILA that includes the premiere of "The Mojo and the Sayso," a play by Aishah Rahman about how a family deals with the tragedy of a young son killed by a police officer. The play runs in the Stiemke Studio from January 27 through January 31. Information about times and tickets is available at [www.bronzevilleartensemble.com](http://www.bronzevilleartensemble.com) or [www.milwaukeeerep.com](http://www.milwaukeeerep.com).

***Hidden in Plain Sight***, which runs through January 31, is open for viewing one hour before each play performance, or by contacting Kelly Parks Snider at 608-576-2847 or [kellyparkssnider@gmail.com](mailto:kellyparkssnider@gmail.com). The Milwaukee Repertory Theater is at 108 East Wells Street in Milwaukee.

The art exhibition is sponsored, in part, by the Brico Fund, Wisconsin Voices, the Democracy Campaign, and the Center for Family Policy and Practice, 9 to 5, Theatre LILA and the Bronzeville Arts Ensemble. Learn more about the exhibition at [www.hidden-in-plain-sight.org](http://www.hidden-in-plain-sight.org)

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