

EMCC instructor wins prize in state-wide photography show

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Special to The Republic

Estrella Mountain Community College photography instructor Richard Gross was awarded second prize in a juried show hosted by Paradise Valley Community College.

The exhibit features artwork by students and members of the community; only 40 works were chosen from about 300 submissions. Judges based their selections on the use of light, composition and the story told by the image.

Gross' photo, titled "Homage to Muqi," is a panoramic view of a mountain and sky scene that he constructed from five different photos of torn paper and plastic wrap. The title is a tribute to the Chinese landscapes that were painted during the Song Dynasty as a statement of who he was and where he was located.

Gross was interested in creating a type of photograph that he hadn't seen before, an inquisitive trait he hopes to pass on to his students at EMCC.

"I constantly encourage my photo students to try and rethink the ordinary and come up with an unusual way to see something with a that is pleasing to the eye," he said.

See the exhibit from noon to 5 p.m. weekdays through Feb. 7 at the Performing Arts Center at [Paradise Valley Community College](#), 8401 N. 32nd St.

Carissa Pool, marketing and public relations coordinator for Estrella Mountain Community College, submitted this article.

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