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Amanda Wojick's "The space is always" to be exhibited in the Governor's Office April 9 – May 31

Salem, Oregon – Eugene artist Amanda Wojick will exhibit "The space is always" in the Governor's Office of the Capitol Building in Salem from April 9 to May 31.

Wojick's work explores a collision of abstraction and everyday life. Using layered texture, vibrant colors and irregular shapes, she weaves together elements of painting, sculpture and collage. "The Space is Always" includes works inspired by common materials found within the space of her home. Her wobbly grids, shifting stacks and hand-cut assemblage reflect a precise yet precarious relationship to current events, space and time. This exhibition is made possible in part through the support of the MacDowell Colony and the Oregon Arts Commission.

Wojick's work has been exhibited at galleries including Elizabeth Leach (Portland, Oregon), Stene Projects (Stockholm, Sweden), Nina Freudenheim (Buffalo, New York), Susan Hobbs (Toronto, Canada), Gridspace (Brooklyn, New York), and SPACES (Cleveland, Ohio), and can be found in the permanent collections of the Portland Art Museum and the Tacoma Art Museum. Wojick's artistic practice has been supported by awards and fellowships from the MacDowell Colony (New Hampshire), Mass MoCA (Massachusetts), the Ucross Foundation (Wyoming), the Portland Art Museum, the Oregon Arts Commission and The Ford Family Foundation, PLAYA, Sculpture Space (New York), the Ragdale Foundation (Illinois) and the University of Oregon.

Wojick holds two Master of Fine Arts degrees—from the Milton Avery School of the Arts, Bard College, and the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University—and a bachelor's in art and art history from Colgate University. She is an associate professor and co-chair of the sculpture program at the University of Oregon, and is represented by Elizabeth Leach Gallery.

The Art in the Governor's Office Program honors selected artists in Oregon with exhibitions in the reception area of the Governor's Office in the State Capitol. Artists are nominated by a statewide committee of arts professionals who consider artists representing the breadth and diversity of artistic practice across Oregon, and are then selected by the Arts Commission with the participation of the Governor's Office. Only professional, living Oregon artists are considered and an exhibit in the Governor's office is considered a "once in a lifetime" honor. Artists whose work has previously been shown in the Governor's office include Henk Pander, Michele Russo, Manuel Izquierdo, James Lavadour, Margot Thompson, Gordon Gilkey and Yuji Hiratsuka.

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The Oregon Arts Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of Business Oregon (formerly Oregon Economic and Community Development Department) in 1993, in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon legislature moved the operations of the Oregon Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development.

The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature and with federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts as well as funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust. More information about the Oregon Arts Commission is available online at: www.oregonartscommission.org.