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| branding_success_k_166-01.jpg | NEWS RELEASE**Contact:** Brittanie Douglas**Phone:** 405.385.5115**Email:** printern@osugiving.com**Website:** [OSUgiving.com](http://www.osugiving.com/) |

Sheila Parr exhibiting art at OSU Foundation

*Alumna showcases work, donating funds to library*

**(Stillwater, Okla., Aug. 12, 2011) –** Subjects for Sheila Parr's art come from the valleys of Tennessee to the mountains of New Mexico for landscapes, hours of research for still lifes, and children for figurative paintings that "tell a story."

Parr (’60 journalism) is exhibiting 23 original oil and giclée paintings in the Malinda Berry Fischer Gallery at the Oklahoma State University Foundation building at 400 S. Monroe until Sept. 30. The gallery is free and open to the public weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and a special reception will be Aug. 18 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The works are for sale, with 35 percent of the proceeds going to fund extended hours at the Edmond Low Library during finals weeks. Parr is a member of the Board of Directors for the OSU Friends of the Library.

“As a board member I see the true value in giving back to the library,” Parr says.

When she was 4, she painted her grandmother’s car with green house paint. She did not paint again until pursuing her passion for fine art at the age of 62, when she began taking formal lessons with Ross Myer’s School of Fine Art as a birthday gift from her family. She lives by the mantra “become new rather than old.” She continues to take lessons with Myers weekly and has studied with a number of nationally acclaimed artists. She gives thanks and a lot of credit to her instructors.

“There is a great thrill of discovery when I find an object for a still life that has both an interesting shape and beautiful colors,” Parr says. “I’ve learned that good art is technically more complex than luscious brush strokes of pigment on a canvas.”

Her representational style has earned awards in juried art shows and her paintings were selected for the Philbrook Museum Festival of Trees and the Gilcrease Museum American Art in Miniature exhibits in Tulsa. She is a member of Alpha Rho Tau civic art organization and Tulsa Artist's Guild.  For her landscapes, still lifes, and figurative paintings, she prefers the medium oil for its energy and light properties. They are available for purchase by emailing crashparr@aol.com.

“I enjoy the endless possibilities for personal expression, the adventure of finding a subject that entertains or inspires,” she says.

While a student at OSU, Parr was in Chi Omega sorority, secretary-treasurer of the Student Senate, O'Collegian staff, and a Redskin Congratulate. Married for 51 years, she and her husband, Royse ('57 geology), live in Tulsa and have two sons and daughters-in-law and six grandchildren (her favorite models).  Grandson R.J. is a freshman at OSU.

"We are so blessed that God created a world of beautiful colors rather than merely black and white," she says.



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**About the OSU Foundation**

[*The Oklahoma State University Foundation*](http://www.osugiving.com/) *serves as the private fundraising organization for OSU, as designated by the OSU Regents. Its mission is to unite donor and university passions and priorities to achieve excellence.*

**About OSU**

[*Oklahoma State University*](http://osu.okstate.edu) *is a modern land-grant system of interdisciplinary programs to better prepare students for success. As Oklahoma’s only university with a statewide presence, OSU improves the lives of people in Oklahoma, the nation, and the world through integrated, high-quality teaching, research, and outreach. OSU has more than 35,000 students across its five-campus system and more than 23,000 on its Stillwater campus, with students from all 50 states and 118 nations. Established in 1890, OSU has graduated more than 200,000 students to serve the state of Oklahoma, the nation and the world.*

HIGH RES IMAGE LINKS

<http://osugiving-hosting.com/osufguest/Releases/Parr.jpg>

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