



## **Smith Library to Host ‘Scene Around Town: Art & Culture’**

**Wylie, Texas, Dec. 14, 2017** – Wylie’s Smith Public Library presents a unique opportunity to learn about art in Wylie and the Greater Dallas area at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 13. “Scene Around Town: Art & Culture,” will feature two of local art’s biggest fans. Carole Ehrlich, Wylie city secretary and liaison to the Public Art Advisory Board, will speak about Wylie’s public art installations. Gail Sachson, founder of “Ask Me About Art,” an adult “college” of art education, will present the armchair tour of hidden gems and well-known art in Dallas.

Sachson holds a Master of Fine Arts from SMU. Her interest began when she took an art course just for fun at Wellesley College when she lived in Massachusetts. After moving to Dallas in 1974, she began teaching art courses to elementary students, pinning buttons to their shirts that said, “Ask me about Jackson Pollock” or “Ask me about Alexander Calder” when she told them stories about the artists’ lives. Parents, intrigued by their children having information about these artists, some of whom they didn’t know, asked her to start an adult education program. “Ask Me About Art” was the result, a program that has only increased in popularity over the years, as Sachson leads gallery trips, classes and workshops.

Sachson teaches at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and is the recipient of the Obelisk award, given to her by the Dallas Business Council for the Arts, among other honors.

The event is free, but registration is required at [WylieTexas.gov/adults/events.php](http://WylieTexas.gov/adults/events.php) . Part of the Rita Smith Cultural Series, it is intended for older children and adults, but all ages are welcome. Light refreshments will be served. The library is located at 300 Country Club, Bldg. 300, Wylie. For more information, call 972-516-6250.

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About Smith Library – Founded in 1970 by Rita and Truett Smith, the library serves the informational, cultural and recreational needs of the over 44,938 Wylie residents. In 2014, the library checked out over 500,000 items and hosted almost 190,000 visitors. More than 35,000 citizens have library cards, and the library offers 459 programs, attended last year by over 25,000 participants. Wylie was incorporated in 1887 and is home to an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, and an ISO-1 fire rating. One of the fastest-growing communities in the state, Wylie has had a 220-percent increase since 2000. In 2017, Wylie was named the 20<sup>th</sup> Best Place to Live in the Country by *Money Magazine*, up from 25<sup>th</sup> in 2015. Realtor.com named Wylie the second hottest suburb in the country in February 2017, and *Money* recently ranked Wylie at fourth Best Place in the Country to Raise a Family.