



**NEW JERSEY
HIGHLANDS
COALITION**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Artist Kim Parker's 'Abstract Gardens' Exhibit opens in Boonton to benefit NJ Highlands Coalition

The NJ Highlands Coalition welcomes artist, designer and author Kim Parker to Maxfield Engine House in Boonton, NJ with tours free and open to the public through June 30, 2026

Abstract Gardens is part of the *Artists as Advocates* program, with proceeds benefiting the **New Jersey Highlands Coalition**

A celebrated artist with deep roots in the region is bringing her latest collection to Morris County this summer.

Kim Parker, an internationally acclaimed artist, award-winning lifestyle designer, and author, will exhibit her newest body of work — *Abstract Gardens* — at the historic Maxfield Engine House in Boonton from June 3 through June 30. The public is warmly encouraged to attend the Artist Reception on Saturday, June 6, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free, making it an ideal outing for art lovers of all ages. Parker will be on hand to meet visitors and discuss her creative process. Regular visiting hours are posted on the web site.

The exhibition features a dynamic and captivating collection of new abstract paintings that reflect Parker's signature style: bold, expressive, and deeply evocative of the natural world. Bright yellows, vivid greens, and bursts of red dance across her canvases, capturing the energy and life of gardens in full bloom.

For Kim Parker, the garden isn't just inspiration — it's the studio, her creative space where art meets the open air. "These new abstract garden paintings are about taking a leap of faith and trusting in Nature and the unknown, new beginnings and liberation", said Kim. "They represent the essence of Nature, and a new dance in the garden."

A Cause Close to Home

NJ Highlands Coalition is a nonprofit dedicated to protecting the Highlands region's forests, water, and wildlife for future generations. The coalition's motto, "*Your Water — Your Future,*" resonates strongly with North Jersey residents who depend on the Highlands watershed for clean drinking water.

"Kim Parker's experience of joy and wonder of the natural world is unconditionally expressed in her work. The NJ Highlands Coalition's mission is to protect the water and other natural and cultural resources of the Highlands. We would be remiss to not include those who are moved by the region's natural beauty as fellow advocates for protecting the Highlands because beauty is worth fighting for to protect!"

- Elliott Ruga, Policy and Communication Director, New Jersey Highlands Coalition.

“For the past four decades, and all of my life,” said Kim, “I’ve been drawn to painting flowers and gardens in vivid colors. My early career and foundation as a serious, classically trained flutist made me aware of not only my love of harmony, but composing as well.

“Creating a garden has always been the visual metaphor of a symphonic composition. The graceful and dynamic movements of stems and leaves set the rhythm, while the dialogue between exuberantly colorful wildflowers provide the joyful melody. All of my paintings are organic in nature; never preplanned - which is why the creative process has always remained fresh.”

The exhibit will be on display at Maxfield Engine House until June 30, 2026.

Visitors are welcome during the posted hours on the website <https://highlandsart.org/contact-hours-directions>

Exhibited work is for sale, with a portion to benefit the New Jersey Highlands Coalition.

Exhibit information: 973-910-2400 email: highlandart@njhighlandscoalition.org web: <https://www.highlandsart.org>

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT KIM PARKER: Instagram @kimparkerstyle Facebook kimparkerstyle

ABOUT THE NJ HIGHLANDS COALITION

Through events such as the Highlands Art Exhibit, the New Jersey Highlands Coalition promotes awareness about the beauty, and cultural and natural resources of the NJ Highlands region. As a nonprofit organization in Boonton, New Jersey, the New Jersey Highlands Coalition works to protect, restore, and enhance the water and other natural and cultural resources of New Jersey’s Highlands. The New Jersey Highlands region encompasses eighty-eight municipalities in Bergen, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren counties. The regions' natural resources are protected under the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act, enacted to protect the drinking water for over 7 million people in NJ as well as the numerous natural resource values on which our quality of life depends. For more information on the NJ Highlands Coalition or to become a member, please visit the organization’s website: <http://www.njhighlandscoalition.org>

ABOUT MAXFIELD ENGINE HOUSE

The Center for the Study of Cities and Small Towns (CSST) Foundation renovated the firehouse according to a preservation study done by researchers from Penn Praxis at the Weitzman School of Design, University of Pennsylvania. Constructed in 1893 by civic-minded Boonton citizens led by then City Council president, Esli B. Dawson, great, great grandfather of CSST board members, Ryan Dawson of Mendham and Rebecca Birch of New York City, the firehouse occupies a prominent location in the center of Boonton, NJ’s Main Street Historic District. It has served a variety of functions since the town’s fire engines became too large for its original use.

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Kim Parker stands with one of her "Abstract Gardens" paintings



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