



**Tai Sophia
Institute**

For Immediate Release

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Colors of Nature

**Opens June 11 at Tai Sophia Institute's Himmelfarb Gallery
Paintings by Diana Marta**

LAUREL, MD (May 15, 2012) – “**Colors of Nature**,” an exhibit of watercolors by Ellicott City artist Diana Marta, opens Monday, June 11, in the Himmelfarb Gallery at Tai Sophia Institute. An artist reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Wednesday, June 13, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Diana Marta is in love with color. She's also in love with nature, which is often her color source. In her paintings, color and nature come together in a dynamic combination that delights the eye. Most of the paintings in “Colors of Nature” are created from her botanical imaginings. Some of her artworks are modular and suggest that growing things – like plant life – expand and move. “Bean Stalk,” a grid of 24-inch square watercolors, forms an installation that is always changing and growing.

It is not surprising that gardening is one of the artist's hobbies. She is often inspired by something as simple as contemplating the mystery of life held within a single seed. The joy of being able to see life unfold is manifest in her new series “Eye of the Beholder.” For Diana Marta, imagining a profusion of plant life is like color music to her eyes. Color is often the basis of her search for the expressive and metaphorical qualities of her subjects.

“I can think of no better celebration of summer than experiencing the explosion of color in Diana's delightful painting,” says gallery coordinator John C. Wilson. “Her paintings are so alive, and bring an incredible energy that draws viewers into her world of plants and flowers.”

Artworks from the show will be on sale through the Meeting Point Bookstore, which is adjacent to the gallery. [Visit the Himmelfarb Gallery online.](#)

What: “Colors of Nature”
Paintings by Diana Marta
When: *June 11 – August 30, 2012*
Where: Himmelfarb Gallery, Tai Sophia Institute
7750 Montpelier Road, Laurel, MD 20723

Artist Reception: Wednesday, June 13, 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Gallery hours: Monday–Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.;
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

(more)

“Colors of Nature” Opens June 11

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About the Artist

Diana Marta is a visual artist and college art instructor. She has taught at a number of schools in Maryland and Pennsylvania, and is currently on the faculty of Catonsville Community College. Marta exhibits oils, watercolors, drawings, installation, and computer images. She has recently had solo exhibitions at the Academy Art Museum in Easton, MD, the Korean Embassy in Washington, D.C., and Maryland Hall in Annapolis, MD. One of her watercolors is in the Forbes Collection, New York, NY. Marta holds a B.S. in art education from Penn State University, an M.F.A. in studio painting from Towson University, and has done doctoral studies in art education also at Penn State. See more of her work at www.dianamarta.com.

About Tai Sophia Institute

Tai Sophia Institute, a private, nonprofit educational institution based in Laurel, Maryland, is a leading center for health and wellness education. Founded in 1974, the Institute has evolved into a diverse resource providing graduate academic programs, continuing professional education, community wellness programs, and clinical services. The Institute's 12-acre main campus also houses a bookstore, a library, and herb and meditation gardens, all of which are open to the public.

About the Himmelfarb Gallery

The lobby of Tai Sophia Institute's main campus building serves as the gallery space, and features four art exhibitions each year. Each exhibition focuses on some aspect of healing, wellness, or nature. Launched in April 2003, the Himmelfarb Gallery has been home to paintings, drawings, prints, photography, fabric, and artist-made paper. It is a place where art and healing intersect.

The Himmelfarb Gallery honors the Helen M. and Annetta E. Himmelfarb Foundation for its gift of \$1 million to the Institute, the largest donation in Tai Sophia's history. The dedication and naming of the space took place on November 17, 2006.

(Note to Journalists: Digital images are available by request.)

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