

upper arlington news

tale of two galleries...upper arlington residents invade short north art spaces

by abigail dudley

thoughts dance through your head while you're driving, cause frequent musings from behind the office desk and even creep into your dreams at night.

it's more than focusing on a goal or an aspiration. it's a calling, which may receive an abrupt answer or take years to become a reality.

for those in the art world, that calling may be to create art or to show it, it latter of was recently brought an upper arlington resident and a ua native to the short north arts district.

just starting out

jacqueline mahan, on the other hand, knew she wanted to own her own gallery, ever since her years attending upper arlington high school and studying photography at fort hayes career center.

just a few years later, mahan, 22, is making her mark with mahan gallery, 1042 n high st., and schedules to open 6 p.m. friday.

the gallery will feature the work of local and national artists emerging on the art scene.

mahan, a recent graduate of the art institute of boston, said she saw a need for a gallery that caters to new artists and collectors upon her return to columbus in august.

"i knew what i wanted to do and where i wanted to do it," mahan said.

"there really is a niche here for this kind of art," mahan said.

mahan said her gallery will serve as a starting ground for artists, as well as collectors, who may be weary of the higher-priced galleries in the area.

"i don't want to be intimidating," mahan said. "we'll provide a comfortable place to learn about art and purchase art."

the mahan gallery's first show, "one," will feature the work of several artists, one of which, kristin patton, is also an upper arlington native and graduate of uahs.

"i'm really excited about the idea of being able to show people who can't get in to some of the galleries down there," patton said.

patton, who is primarily a painter, uses a variety of media in her work, which is inspired by memory.

"the concept is primarily based on the concept of memory and how it changes over time," patton said.

in the process of opening a gallery that is not intimidating, mahan said she is not intimidated by being the new kid of the block.

"i think being so green to everything is actually an edge. i'm not scared of anything," mahan said. "i don't know what to be scared of."

"i'm excited to see if i can pull it off," mahan said.