

Shared photo exhibit brings college museums together



This is one of the photos featured in an exhibition of photographs from Israel and the West Bank now on display at four upstate college museums. Nick Waplington, Untitled. Chromogenic print. Copyright Nick Waplinton.

By Amy Neff Roth

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Hamilton College in Clinton is showing an exhibition of photos taken by photographers visiting Israel and the West Bank between 2009 and 2012.

So is Colgate University in Hamilton.

And Skidmore College and the University at Albany.

The exhibition, "This Place," has been divided up through a cooperative arrangement between Hamilton's Wellin Museum, Colgate's Picker Art Gallery, Skidmore's Tang Museum and Albany's

University Art Museum. It's part of a three-year Teagle Foundation grant to help the colleges' teaching museums learn from each other.

"Learning from each other is such a critical part of how we're going to grow," said Tracy Adler, Johnson-Pote director of the Wellin.

The exhibition is the second year of the grant, but the grant is more focused on how each museum uses the exhibition to teach and what each museum can learn from the others, she said.

"I think that teaching museums are really dynamic places and it's where you're seeing a lot of innovation in museums because there is this integration with the curriculum," she said.

So museums look for all the ways they can bring classes into the exhibition and all the ways staff can use it for education, Adler said.

Each of the four museums feature works by four of the 12 photographers in the exhibition. There's no overlap between the museums at Colgate and Hamilton or the museums at Skidmore and Albany. The exhibition includes large-format color prints, black-and-white photos and documentary images. Their subjects relate to history, geography, boundaries, immigration, citizenship community and culture.

The exhibit opened at Colgate on Feb. 1 and runs through May 20. It opened at Hamilton on Feb. 10 and runs through June 10.

The exhibition was organized by the Chronicle of a People Foundation, Inc.

Contact reporter Amy Neff Roth at 315-792-5166 or follow her on Twitter (@OD_Roth).