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More than 65 pieces of art will go on display Friday through Aug. 14 at (SCENE) MetroSpace, 303 Abbott Road. The exhibits all deal with perceptions of body image. MetroSpace will be open 6-9 p.m. Friday and Saturdays and 1-4 p.m. on Sundays.

The artist featured include:

- New York digital artist Curtis Canham
- Lansing-based artist Suzanne Clements
- Lansing-based sculptor Matt Cygnet
- New York-based phototherapist Ellen Fisher Turk
- Ohio graphic artist Derek Hess
- Colorado native J. Diane Martonis
- East Lansing artist Karen Ann Myers
- Lansing-based artist Travis Pickard

For more information, check out scenemetrospace.com.

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New art show opens at (SCENE) MetroSpaceBy [DARRELL HUGHES](#)

The State News

Several artists will use their unique styles to portray the beauty of the body in an exhibition entitled "Skin Deep."

The pieces are based on human forms that explore body images and perceptions that many young people have problems with today, said (SCENE) MetroSpace coordinator Emma Kruch.

The eight artists featured in the show did not work together on the art, but Kruch said they related the themes into their works, focusing on body image and sculpted forms of the body.

"No one has covered this issue," she said, adding that this is an area in which many students worry about what they look like.

Kruch said all the artists will showcase various forms of art.

"There is a lady who makes dolls on fairy tales and dreams that she has," Kruch said. "And it's all based on body image and perception.

"There will also be a digital artist who works through Photoshop to create pictures out of pixels."

An Ohio-based artist, Derek Hess, who Kruch considers to be the biggest artist featured, will have works representing muscle mass and body structure that's made using a particular type of pen and ink.

To ensure that attendees realize the seriousness of the issue, Kruch said some artists did pieces based off their own lives, particularly Lansing-based artist Suzanne Clements, who battled anorexia for two years.

"I'm not emaciated anymore," she said. "I'm in the later stages of recovery."

Clements said her art is about making peace with the issue and moving on.

"Everyone has their own personal reason for doing this," she said, adding that some people become bulimic because some aspect of their lives is out of control.

Clements also said many people further subject themselves to this behavior to advance their careers, especially in areas of theater and dance.

"People think they have to look their best," she said. "This art is a statement.

"If you've got everything going for yourself and everything is going great, what reason do you have to starve yourself?"

The opening show will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday at (SCENE) MetroSpace, 303 Abbott Road.

The art reception will have ambient music by Matt Borghi, and refreshments will be served.

Admission to the gallery is free, but space for the opening is limited. The exhibit at the gallery will be open through Aug. 14.

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