LOCAL COLOR
A retrospective exhibition of watercolor paintings by Parker S. McAllister

PROBLEM
Create a public library exhibit highlighting original watercolor paintings by local artist Parker S. McAllister that depict the exploration of the Pacific Northwest coast by Spanish, English, and American sailors. Use primary and secondary resources from the library collection to draw parallels between the art interpretation and history.

PROCESS
Made selections that support the themes of maritime and coastal exploration, interactions with native people, and relations between Spain and England. Identified key historical personages and events, and conducted research to write interpretive text that connects the art subject matter to relevant library materials. Determined strategies to draw attention to the exhibit and engage the community in dialogue about art and history.

OUTCOME
Curated a comprehensive exhibit featuring a selection of 14 paintings plus materials from the library collection. Produced an archival exhibit handbook, including an interpretative checklist of the exhibit materials and recommendations for exhibiting marketing and programming. Created a publically-accessible bibliography to promote scholarship and discovery of materials relevant to the history of the Pacific Northwest coast.

A 2013 CAPSTONE PROJECT BY KIM BAKER
IN CONJUNCTION WITH: