

Title:**“Keystone Growth”****Description:**

“Keystone Growth” uses the Saguaro as a metaphor in the slow growth and progress a person embarks on in a lifetime. The Saguaro is a Keystone species of the Sonoran desert, meaning it is foundational to the desert. Establishing a centered foundation for the self is key in the construction of a healthy identity. This sand painting uses loose dry colored sand to create an image. Patience and perseverance are necessary to complete the work. Once it is completed there is short time to take it in, and then it is swept away. Everything is temporary, and the beauty is in the impermanence and enjoyment of the moment.

Bio:

Roy Wasson Valle was born in Mexico and lived there until at the age of 11 his family moved to Arizona. In 2003 he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture from Arizona State University. He has since has participated in several group and individual shows locally. He is married to artist/educator Koryn Woodward. They have two daughters. He and Koryn created Camp Dreamtree in 2014, at the Scottsdale Public Library which is an interactive art camp installation. They have made two additional installation shows, Fireweather and Bird Cloud Island which Koryn directed. He makes work which ranges from flat images to full scale construction and is always trying out new media. He finished his graduate degree at ASU in December of 2019. While at the university he was involved with an installation project through the university’s Interplanetary Initiative converting an empty trailer into a speculative Mars surface habitat. This project became a main component of his thesis work and final exhibit Mars Made: Retroforms which was produced with his partner and construction team. Since then he and Koryn have continued work on different aspects of Camp Dreamtree, including Augmented Reality and short filmed workshops. They are currently working on their largest installation to date at the I.d.e.a. Museum in Mesa, Arizona with an interactive mural which will be completed in 2022.

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