

the  
**SHEILA KIRSTEN  
 HUGHES** *band*

**BOOKING & INFO**

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Sheila Kirsten Hughes Band is a member of the 2008-2010 Florida State Touring Roster and is a two-time recipient of the Artist Enhancement Grant from the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs.

**ARTICLE** *st. petersburg times*



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Times photos — JENNIFER STEWART  
 Musicians Chris Hughes and Sheila Kirsten-Hughes talk with artist Kim Northrop, right, during a lively reception for Northrop's exhibit, "Nobody Got Hurt — It's Alright," at the Pasco Arts Council's Arts Center in Holiday.

**Ambiance of art draws crowd**

**HOLIDAY** — The creativity almost was palpable. The Pasco Arts Council event featured musicians with original songs, a performance poet with art on the walls, and a visual artist with words in her work.

And the June 10 reception for the exhibit "Nobody Got Hurt — It's Alright" drew nearly 70 guests who seemed eager to take it all in.

"People were here to just enjoy the whole ambiance. ... It was more like a stand-alone event," the council's executive director, **Marj Golub**, said.

The delightful arts center, which is tucked away behind the Centennial Park Library, features pieces by **Kim Northrop** in the current exhibit. Northrop uses an acrylic paints and gel medium with "other things collaged in."

Egg tempura paintings by **Gai-nor Roberts** appear in the Upstairs Gallery.

Original music at the reception was provided by **Chris Hughes** and **Sheila Kirsten-Hughes**, a husband and wife team from North Tampa who founded the Nubzilla's Cafe Web site for independent artists (go to [www.nubzilla.com](http://www.nubzilla.com) and click on the online cafe).



**JENNIFER STEWART**  
 PEOPLE & PARTIES

At the start of the event, the center's "Poet-in-Residence," **Bob Zappacosta**, read several of his poems, to which he combined other elements. "I like to break it up with music, which is a little more subtle for people to take in," said Zappacosta, who also has objects that accompany his poems in the exhibit.

"That (reception) was one of our more fun, better ones, which we planned for," Golub said. For the past year or two, in fact, Golub has been trying to make the opening receptions more "content based" so guests have the option to learn something new, such as an artistic technique.

Northrop, a former "dot com" executive who lives in Sarasota, enjoys using words and phrases in her artwork. "I think of a lot of the pieces as being a line of poetry,"



Much of Kim Northrop's work reflects her on-the-job struggles. This piece is called *Indifference*.

she said. Many of the words in the current exhibit have to do with rediscovery through looking back.

Nostalgia is a terrible place to be, Northrop said. "It's like treading water."

"It took me a long time to rest myself into the present."

The exhibit runs through June 30 at the Pasco Arts Council, 5744 Moog Road, Holiday. The hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and admission is free.

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