Shedding an intimate light on Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In honor of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Clackamas Community College Wilsonville campus will be featuring a collection of paintings entitled, “What Silence Sounds Like” throughout the month of October. As a survivor of domestic violence, the artist of the collection, Jennifer Whitten, is using painting to start a conversation about the subject of domestic violence and the culture of silence surrounding it.

Having painted since her childhood, it wasn’t until Whitten, 27, began studying art therapy at Clackamas Community College that she became serious about her art. After getting out of a long-term relationship with an abusive partner and the father of her eight-year-old son, Whitten connected with the idea of expressing her emotions through art.

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