Finding ‘kinship’ in art, nature

By Andy Coughlan

The Earth’s ecosystem is a delicate balance. We find ourselves in a tipping point with climate change threatening to upset that balance as we shift perilously close to losing the beauty of the world around us.

Margaret Smithers-Crump’s exhibition “Kinship,” on display at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas through June 18, is the perfect illustration of the fragility and beauty of our world.

The sculptural works are large, delicate-looking creations that magnify the delicate parts of our ecosystem that we take for granted, such as kelp and fungi, plankton and coral.

The pieces have a fragility that makes enchockers feel that to even breathe on them would do damage. Yet ironically, they are being created from recycled Plexiglas and polyurethanes, which

An installation of Margaret Smithers-Crump’s exhibition “Kinship.”

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It’s just an average day in Bikini Bottom, when suddenly the ground starts to rumble. An eruption is about to occur. Fortunately, SpongeBob SquarePants and Patrick Star are on the case and set to save the town.

A trip into the world of SpongeBob SquarePants and the environmental stories behind them.

Undersea musical fun: BCP to present ‘The SpongeBob Musical’ from May 5

By Andy Coughlan

The popular Nickelodeon animated series, begin ning May 5. The show, created by Stephen Hillenburg, features a cast of iconic cartoon characters and the voice talents of Bill Fagerbakke, Tom Kenny, Rodger Bumpass, Clancy Brown, and Clive Revill.

SpongeBob SquarePants and his friends are ready to take on any challenge that comes their way, whether it be saving the environment or simply relaxing with a delicious fry. The show’s catchy tunes and humorous dialogue make it an enjoyable watch for all ages.

The musical will run May 5 through June 18 at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas, 2222 Main Street, Beaumont, Texas. For more information, please visit www.spongebobmusical.com.
Margaret Smithers-Crump's "Symbiosis." the exhibition "Kinship," on display at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas through June 18.

Margaret Smithers-Crump stands in front of "Oasis."

Margaret Smithers-Crump’s "Symbiosis," part of her exhibition "Kinship," on display at the Art Museum of Southeast Texas through June 18.

"There’s many instances where I’ve bad the time and I’ve sat down and been like, ‘How would SpongeBob react to this?’" Jenkins said. "And I real- ize it’s not the complicat- ed. It’s either happy or sad — or confused. It’s a very one-dimensional character, compared to a human. It’s very, very, very, very, very, very, very..." Jenkins said. "Don’t be surprised if SpongeBob actually does go out and get a good character fit for a villain."

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"It’s funny," he said. "It’s such a fun show — bright and colorful," he said. "There’s a lot of jokes, and it’s just a really good time."

Jenkins echoed Sey- mour’s sentiments, noting that the show is high energy and enjoyable throughout.

"There’s not a dead part," she said. "There’s not a part where you’re like, ‘I don’t want to watch this anymore.’" Jenkins said the show is just for fans of the cartoon.

"It’s funny," he said. "There are many things that only adults get. It’s for kids, it’s for adults, it’s for anything in between. People who hate SpongeBob will still find this enjoyable."