**ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM -LOCKPORT**

 **Contact: John Lustig-Director**

 **john.lustig@illinois.gov**

 **Illinois State Museum** presents

**ROCKED & ROLLED**

Featuring Artist/Illustrator Iri5 (Erika Simmons)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**{Lockport, Illinois, April 13, 2019}** – **{Illinois State Museum-Lockport}** announces the next exhibition, **ROCKED & ROLLED** featuring music themed art, photography, sculpture installation and illustration from seventy-two (72) emerging and established artists and photographers from Illinois. The artwork is being paired with geodes, minerals, and fossils from the Illinois State Museum Geology Collection.

Featured exhibiting Artist/Illustrator Iri5 aka Erika Simmons from Arlington Heights, Illinois. A working American artist whose work has been published in major American publications including The New York Times and The Village Voice.

 Exhibition dates, May 1, 2019 through October 6, 2019

 OPENING RECEPTION Sunday MAY 5, 2019- 2:00pm until 4:00pm

**“Iri5 represents the current wave in American art through the use of “unexpected material”. The joy embodied in her process is demonstrated in the love of her subject matter and material usage. This exhibition is a celebration of music through the eyes of art in direct conversation with the rocks, minerals and fossils from the world renowned Geology Collection of the Illinois State Museum. We are seeking to elevate the material by contrasting the nature of earth’s explosive structure with the culturally defining music created in the last fifty (50) years. Timeless rocks meet timeless rock stars!”**

 John Lustig-Director, Illinois State Museum-Lockport

 Curator for ROCKED & ROLLED

**John Lustig** john.lustig@illinois.gov

**(Iri5) Erika Simmons** Erika Simmons@gmail

 ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM website http://www.illinoisstatemuseum.org

 Images are available by request.

 ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM-LOCKPORT located at

 201 W.10th Street, Norton Building-Lockport, Illinois, 60441

 Public hours, W-F, 9:00 am until 5:00pm,

 Saturday, Sunday from 11:00 am until 5:00pm