



Mica Gallery in Bakersville, NC, Offers Hand-Made Items for the Holidays

Mica Gallery in Bakersville, NC, is presenting the exhibit *Sweet Lights*, featuring a display and sale of hand-made candlesticks, candelabra, candy dishes and other holiday items, on view through Dec. 31, 2012.

Mica will be stocked with cheerful holiday items including tree ornaments, candleholders and dishes for sweets made by Mica member artists. The exhibit will also feature holiday ornaments made by local guest artists John D. Richards, Betsy Morrell, Buzz Coren, Jim Charneski, Jane Willig, and Allan Hollar.

The exhibition *Late Bloomer: A Celebration of Color*, featuring floral-inspired oil paintings by Dorothy Buchanan Collins, continues on display at Mica until Dec. 31 as well.

Mica Gallery is a local artist-owned cooperative showcasing fine ceramics, glass, wood objects, prints, and paintings. Member artists are: from Bakersville, NC: Suze Lindsay, Shaunna Lyons, Kent McLaughlin, David Ross, Jenny Lou Sherburne, Gertrude Graham Smith; from Burnsville, NC: Will Baker, Claudia Dunaway Richards, Joy Tanner; from Penland, NC: Barking Spider Pottery, Cynthia Bringle, Susan Feagin, Pablo Soto; and from



Work by Suze Lindsay

Asheville, NC: Jacquie Allen.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/688-6422 or visit (www.micagallerync.com).

Black Mountain Center for the Arts in Black Mountain, NC, Offers Works in Clay

The Black Mountain Center for the Arts Clay Studio presents its annual *Teacher/Student Exhibit* with an opening reception on Friday, Dec. 7 from 6-8pm, at the Center, located in Black Mountain, NC. The opening reception coincides with a Holiday Pottery Market during Black Mountain's annual Holly Jolly Christmas. Music will be provided by Asheville Rhythm Section. The Market continues through Dec., 21; the exhibit will continue through Jan. 18, 2013, however, the Center is closed Dec. 22-Jan. 2.

Since its opening in 2007, the Black Mountain Center for the Arts Clay Studio, housed in a recycled city garage adjacent to the Black Mountain Center for the Arts has presented an annual studio's teachers and students exhibit, along with a Holiday Market open for shopping. The theme for the 2012-13 exhibit is "All Things T," featuring



Works by Annie Singletary

from functional and ceremonial tea-related items to the whimsical.

Professional potters teaching in the Clay Studio currently are Charles Freeland of Charles Freeland Pottery, Geoff Bird of Morning Sky Pottery, Cathy Babula, and Annie Singletary of Annie Singletary Ceramics. In addition, Maureen Joyce and Elise Reed have also taught classes this year and will be included in exhibit.

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Charles Freeland is a graduate of Austin College and the University of North Texas. He holds an MFA in ceramics with a minor in painting and drawing. He has taught at a number of different programs from Texas to Illinois, where he taught for Bradley University, Lakeland Community College and Eastern Illinois University in a variety of areas from ceramics to multicultural aesthetics. He is the Studio Manager for the BMCA Clay Studio.

Geoff Bird is the senior member of the Black Mountain Center for the Arts Clay Studio potters by virtue of his teaching at the Center since 2000 and his 40+ years experience working in the ceramic arts. His beautiful pottery has brought recognition for him throughout the southeast. Bird studied at various schools and studios in North Carolina when pottery was experiencing a renaissance in the 1960s. He owns Morning Sky Pottery with a studio in eastern Buncombe County and a retail shop on Cherry Street in downtown Black Mountain.



Works by Annie Singletary

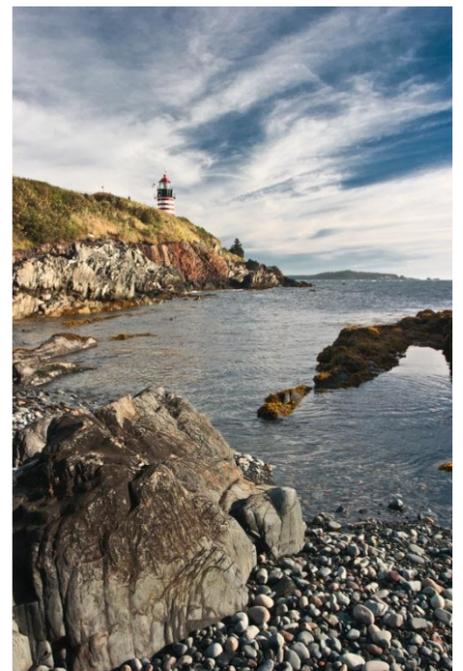
Annie Singletary graduated from the University of NC at Asheville, followed by a 2-year Residency at Odyssey Center for Ceramic Arts in Asheville. She and her husband are involved with Camps Merri-Mac and Timberlake, where her role has been that of equestrian program supervisor. Her love for nature and her outdoor lifestyle keep her highly motivated in her work in clay. Singletary's pottery is functional, made from porcelain or white stoneware and a variety of glazes. She compares the forms and patterns in her pottery to those in both nature and textiles.

Cathy Babula's love of pottery began in high school where she focused primarily on hand built work. Bypassing her secret dream of becoming a potter, she pursued a degree in horticulture from SUNY instead. After a career as a corporate trainer, she enrolled in pottery classes at the BMCA Clay Studio concentrating on wheel throwing and rekindled her dream of being a professional potter. Babula then entered the Professional Crafts - Clay program at Haywood Community College in 2010, graduating with an

Associate's Degree in May of 2012. Since plants and nature motifs are prevalent in her decorating, Babula has come full circle by merging her original interests of pottery and horticulture.

Elise Reed is a graduate of Salisbury University in Maryland, and has studied weaving and metal smithing at Penland School of Crafts, as well as pottery with

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