

Dare County Arts Council

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COVID-19, and then reimagined into a two-part event with a series of three Art Kit Drive-Thrus in October and the *Digital Art Show* in November.

The art kit drive-thru events at Cape Hatteras Elementary School, Manteo Elementary School, and First Flight Elementary School were incredibly successful, with Dare County Arts Council staff and volunteers working with Dare County School teachers and administrators to distribute 300 free art kits to Dare County students.



"Mandala"- A digitally enhanced photograph by Vincent Maoine who is in 10th grade at Manteo High School.

"Cape Hatteras Elementary was so excited to be asked to participate as a drop off location for *Artrageous* Art Kits," said Cape Hatteras Elementary School teacher Kristina McEwan. "It was such a wonderful opportunity to give our kids access to extra art supplies and inspiration during our virtual learning experience. It has been a challenge to develop and maintain access to enriching art experiences for kids during this time, and we were overjoyed to be able to help deliver some more to our community with the help of Dare County Arts Council and all of the sponsors of this event. I can't wait for everyone to see the show and be able to enjoy all the creativity that comes out of



"Journey to Saturn" - A painting by Hillary Simpson who is in 3rd grade at Nags Head Elementary School.

this endeavor!"

Artrageous is presented by PNC Bank. Dare County Arts Council thanks SAGA Realty & Construction, Sun Realty, Joe Lamb Jr. & Associates, Midgett Insurance Agency, Super Wings, Nags Head Self Storage, and the Outer Banks Community Foundation for sponsoring *Artrageous*. The Don and Catharine Bryan Cultural Series is Dare County Arts Council's creative partner for this special event. This project was also supported by the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

Dare County Arts Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization dedicated to encouraging the arts in Dare County through advocacy, enrichment and opportunity.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 252/473-5558 or visit (DareArts.org/artrageous).

Craven Arts Council & Gallery in New Bern, NC, Features Works by Janet Dixon

The Craven Arts Council & Gallery in New Bern, NC, will present *A Portrait*, featuring works by Janet Dixon, on view in the Director's Gallery at the Bank of the Arts, from Dec. 1 - 31, 2020. A reception will be held on Dec. 11, from 5-8pm, during the December ArtWalk in New Bern.

This body of work is created from stamps, Christmas cards, and photographs and then carefully cut and pasted to form a portrait of Christ.

This series steers away from her traditional method of painting and explores collage using only found materials. *A Portrait* uses collage paper consisting of Christmas cards, stamps and photographs to create dynamic images of the face of Christ. Each piece is designated by year and only consists of materials from that given year. Dixon has created one new piece each year for the past twelve years. These pieces are separate, but also come together to become one portrait. Dixon hopes that viewers will engage with each piece and find something moving and meaningful within.

Dixon will also be selling card sets consisting of 12 blank cards for \$25 a set.

Dixon is a local artist in New Bern



Work by Janet Dixon

who typically works in watercolor and oil. She has participated in numerous exhibits at the Bank of the Arts and Eastern North Carolina. Much of her work is done in plein air, painting the natural world.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 252/638-2577 or visit (www.cravenarts.org).

North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, Features Works by Daniel Johnston

North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, is presenting *A Thousand Throws*, an installation by artist and Seagrove potter Daniel Johnston, on view in the

Adams Gallery of Ceramic and Installation Art, at the University's Gregg Museum of Art & Design, through July 18, 2021.

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Lidded Raku Urn, 17" H x 9.5" W

Mark Gordon
Works in Clay
Dec. 2, 2020 - Jan. 9, 2021

Sunset River Marketplace
10283 Beach Drive SW
Calabash, NC
910.575.5999
SunsetRiverMarketplace.com

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The installation presents an immersive experience of controlled pace, interaction, and a compelling mix of traditional pottery and contemporary art.

After studying under such masters as J.B. Cole and Mark Hewitt, Daniel Johnston traveled from his home in Randolph County, NC, to England and Thailand, studying techniques such as large vessel making and working among master potters and long held traditions. As he explored his skills and mastery of the craft of pottery, he also began also to develop his appreciation of different ways of looking at his work and how he might realize their conceptual possibilities, by using these vessels to manipulate light, scale and space.

"I do not try to control my materials; rather, I try to understand them", says Johnston. "When I look at a line of pots, what I see is [their] pure potential, [their] purity. There is no marked path. Some could last weeks, some could last hundreds of years."

Johnston combines his interest in architecture, engineering, installation art, and various traditions of making pottery to create works that control space and environment. By changing the way people interact with the pots by altering light, position, and how the pots exist in the spaces he creates, he intends to evoke emotion, and feed the viewer enough information so they might take a journey. He speaks of activating the mind in order to create a fuller experience, rather than allowing viewers to make assumptions or approach the work with preconceived notions. His installations often use visual metaphors as an emotional backdrop for the installations. Johnston also notes that his response as an artist is to think about what he does and what it means, and to create something that transcends knowledge, which he then communicates to other people.

"I am trying to broaden the view. I am trying to place people at a sort of 'ground zero', so that when they see the work, they can actually see it for the first time. Each pot is like a word in a poem. Removing even

one pot would change the experience, and the combination of the pots offers a greater experience than any one pot alone."

At his studio in Seagrove, NC, Johnston uses local clay to make his pots, and fires them in a 900-cubic foot kiln that reaches temperatures of 2400 degrees. In 2008, he began numbering his large pots - often 4 to 5 feet tall and 2 to 3 feet in width - in an effort to keep track of the progression of his work over his career. The installation at the Gregg will include his one-thousandth large pot, reflected in the title of the exhibition.

Johnston's first exhibition of the crossover from potter to installation artist was held in 2015 at Greenhill Center for North Carolina Art in Greensboro, NC. Since then, he has created installations at Peters Projects art gallery in Sante Fe, NM, and has an installation along the Meadow Trail at the NC Museum of Art sculpture park. He also has work featured in museum collections such as The Mint Museum of Art, Charlotte, NC, The Gregg Museum of Art & Design, Raleigh, NC, and the North Carolina Pottery Center in Seagrove, NC. He has lectured and taught several workshops across the Southeast including at the Smithsonian's Folk Life Festival in Washington, DC, Penland School of Crafts in Penland, NC, and St. Ives Ceramics in St Ives, Cornwall, England.

All exhibitions are free and open to the public. The Gregg Museum is currently open on a reduced schedule due to the pandemic. Reservations for timed entry are required. Please visit (Gregg.arts.ncsu.edu) for ticket information and registration, hours, directions, and announcements regarding openings, programs and other events.

The Gregg Museum of Art & Design is a free collecting and exhibiting museum with more than 35,000 objects in its permanent collection. From 19th century Japanese color woodblock prints and antique quilts to contemporary photography and industrial design, the Gregg's objects span cultures, disciplines and genres.

You can contact us by calling 843/693-1306 or by e-mail at - info@carolinaarts.com but do it before the 24th of the month prior to our next issue.