

Harvey Gantt Center in Charlotte

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discussion and observation, for mourning and for celebration. The BLM Plaza, anchored by 3rd Street and MLK Jr. Boulevard on Tryon, provided a place for the community to reflect, to gather, play, create and to connect. The *Untitled Series* continued to reinforce that connection through collaboration, experimental art and creative freedom.

Lift Every Voice is an evolving installation expressing the nature of public art and social activism. Both reflect the reality of the world around us, while acting as a catalyst for change. The BLM mural is an example of the power of uncensored and unrevised voices; which, when placed in the hands of the public, takes on a life of its own, filled with individual interactions and stories.

Public art is not a singular answer, but rather asks the questions and offers perspective. Inside these walls our voices are

but echoes, but only for a time to reflect and to grow. For the more voices we hear, the louder we become.

Founded in 2016 by Sam Guzzie and Hannah Fairweather, Brand the Moth organizes volunteer community mural projects, promotes community arts and mural education and supports first-time muralists by giving them the knowledge and tools they need to succeed.

BlkMrktClt is a gallery and studio space based in Charlotte, NC, that works with local photographers and artists of color to offer a safe, creative space to work in. BlkMrktClt hosts a variety of exhibitions and workshops for the artist and the community.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 704/547-3700 or visit (<https://www.ganttcenter.org/>).

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Alice Ballard

Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC, will present *My Mother Took the Ming Rose out of the Cradle*, featuring works by SC artist, Alice Ballard, on view in CPCC's Overcash Gallery, from Mar. 29 through May 27, 2021.

Ballard's new exhibition merges the past with the present while looking toward the future as she combines new and old works into a unique gallery show. *My Mother Took the Ming Rose out of the Cradle* is a poetic line of words deeply connected to Ballard. The ming rose, in Ballard's life, is a common thread representing some of her darkest and most joyful moments. The ceramic works of art Ballard crafts echo the natural world around her in their organic shapes and natural pigments.

Ballard understands the pain of deep personal loss, as well as the journey one must take to find healing. Through her artwork, she found restoration and formed meaningful connections with other people. While creating art and teaching others to craft their own works, Ballard's passion for her work spills out into earthen forms of leaves, tulips, onions and many more shapes encompassing a variety of plantlife. As she judiciously responds to the materials present, Ballard uses her artist's intuition to craft each piece of art. She allows the clay forms to guide her as she works and reworks the clay. "Art making," Ballard says, "is always a learning experience."



Alice Ballard, "Meditation Bowls"

her own solo exhibition, Ballard will also serve as this year's juror for the *2021 Annual Juried Student Art Show* at Central Piedmont.

An Artist Lecture by Ballard will be offered on Facebook Live, on Apr. 14, beginning at 11am at ([facebook.com/cpccarts](https://www.facebook.com/cpccarts)).

Central Piedmont Community College is highly accessible and convenient to people of all ages who seek a real-world, affordable, hands-on education that will transform their lives and strengthen the economic, social, and cultural environment of Mecklenburg County. Central Piedmont is also a smart investment. At a fraction of the cost, students learn by doing, receiving a combination of technical and soft skills training from quality faculty who prepare them to enter the workforce and make a difference in their family, business, community, and world.

Founded in 1963, Central Piedmont Community College has eight locations throughout Mecklenburg County, offering nearly 300 degree, diploma, and certification programs; customized corporate training; market-focused continuing education; and special interest classes.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Amelia Zytka by e-mail at (amelia.zytka@cpcc.edu). Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at Central Piedmont Arts and our blog at (<http://blogs.cpcc.edu/cpccart-galleries/>).



Alice Ballard, "Ming Rose", photo by Amelia Zytka

My Mother Took the Ming Rose out of the Cradle, will include work consisting of ceramic ming roses, tree totems, charcoal drawings and a variety of earthenware pieces. Ballard also is this year's Central Piedmont Sensoria artist and will give a live virtual artist lecture during the week of the Sensoria festival. In addition to

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Features Works by Thomas McNickle

Jerald Melberg Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present *The Pond*, an exhibition of new landscape paintings by veteran gallery artist, Thomas McNickle, on view from Mar. 13 through Apr. 24, 2021.

This is the artist's fifteenth solo exhibition with the gallery.

This new body of work centers on a picturesque pond near the artist's home in western Pennsylvania Amish country. McNickle says: "The core of this exhibition is a group of paintings of the pond and its wonderful reflective beauty. I have painted it in the crisp morning light, the heavy air of afternoon and the warm glow of evening. I have painted it in the spring, summer and fall. As I painted, I realized how completely suffused my aesthetic had become by this small, intimate place that nature had given me. It has been a most cathartic experience."

McNickle's exceptional technical ability has been evident since he first began painting in his teens. His work has been exhibited in over one hundred museum and gallery exhibitions and can be found in numerous collections including Butler Institute of American Art, Hoyt Art Cen-



Work by Thomas McNickle

ter, Vero Beach Museum of Art, Kansas State University, Gibbes Museum of Art, The Mint Museum, and Morris Museum of Art.

Jerald Melberg Gallery is located on South Sharon Amity Road near the intersection with Providence Road.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/365-3000 or visit (www.jeraldmelberg.com).

The deadline each month to submit articles, photos and ads is the 24th of the month prior to the next issue. This will be March 24th for the April 2021 issue and Apr. 24th for the May 2021 issue.

After that, it's too late unless your exhibit runs into the next month.

But don't wait for the last minute - send your info now.

And where do you send that info?

E-mail to (info@carolinaarts.com).

So you're the Marketing Director of a visual arts organization, art museum, arts center, arts council or artist guild and you're wondering why you never see the exhibits presented at your facility included here. Maybe you're the owner of a commercial art gallery and you've never seen your exhibits included with others presented in your area. You might even be an individual artist who is having an exhibit in a non-profit space or commercial space and you don't see your exhibits included.

My question to you is - How long will you put up with that before you ask someone, "Why that is the case?" If you're not included - it's your fault.

Don't forget about our website:

www.carolinaarts.com



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