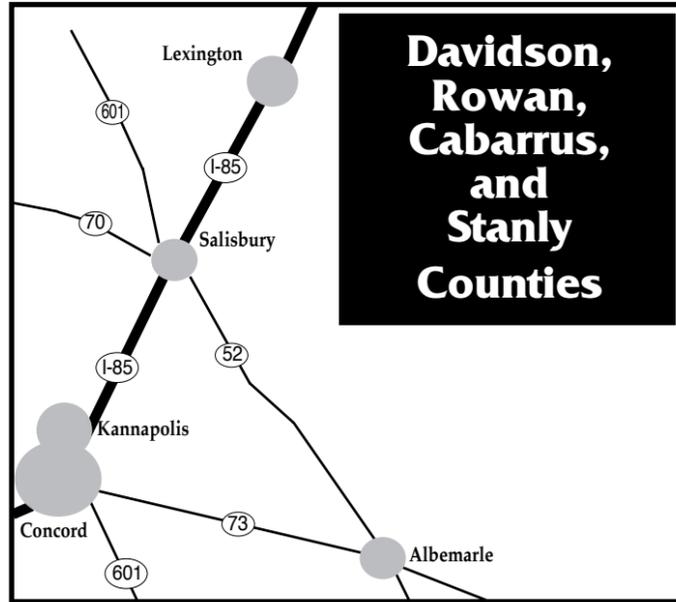
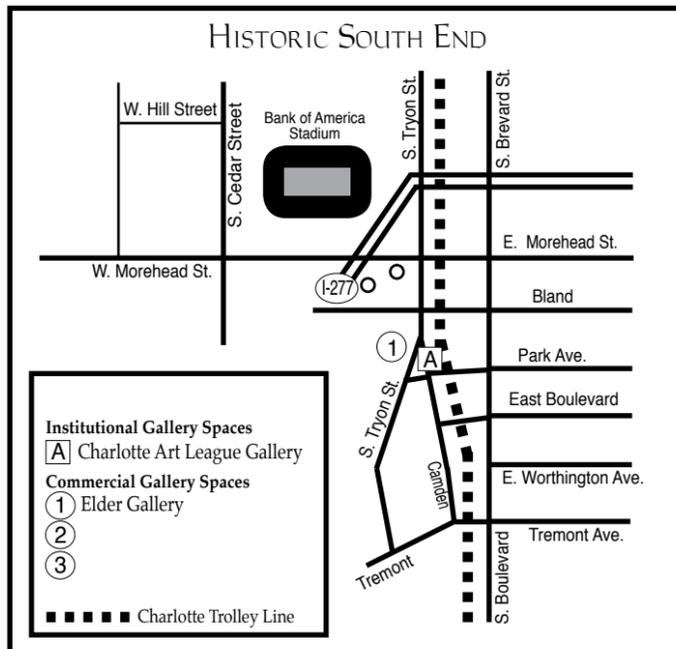


# Charlotte, NC Maps

## Uptown - South End & North



## Carolina's Got Art! Takes the Lead in Supporting Carolina Artists at Elder Gallery in Charlotte, NC

Elder Gallery in Charlotte, NC, will present the fourth *Carolina's Got Art!*, from May 1 - 30, 2015. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on May 1, from 6-9pm.

Passion and creativity are often viewed as just another person's interests that may fade into obscurity. But when they are combined, the result can be life-changing. Such is the case with a Charlotte-based art competition that has become the largest and most lucrative opportunity available, exclusively for artists who live and work in North and South Carolina.

*Carolina's Got Art!* (CGA!), is the brain-child of Charlotte art dealer, Larry Elder, who knows firsthand the importance of supporting creative individuals. North and South Carolina are overflowing with talented artisans who often struggle to maintain a livelihood for themselves and their families. "This is not just a Carolina issue but one that is affecting artists around the nation," says Elder. The 2008 downturn in the economy drastically hit the arts community and forced many artists to abandon their art careers to seek a livelihood in other ways."

Now in its fourth year, CGA! offers professional and amateur artists a unique opportunity to gain exposure among potential buyers, receive recognition in the art community, and compete for \$25,000 in cash and prizes. The event has grown from 450 entries in 2009 to just under 3000 in this year's competition.

Artists from all corners of the two states view the opportunity as significant, evidenced by the number of submissions into this year's competition. The success

of CGA! resulted in Elder taking on a co-producer for the competition which has drawn thousands of attendees to Charlotte's SouthEnd arts district over the past three years. Michael Orell joined to automate the submission process and increase brand awareness through his extensive experience with technology and social media.

Entries were reviewed by this year's juror, Eliza Rathbone, who served as Chief Curator of The Phillips Collection in Washington, DC, for more than 20 years. Selected pieces will be exhibited at Elder Gallery during a month-long show in May and will provide selected artists an opportunity to sell their work in one of the region's premier art galleries. For those not selected by Rathbone, there will be a second show, chosen by Elder for an exhibition during the month of June.

New to the competition this year is a special ceramics component selected by internationally acclaimed ceramicist Peter Callas. Ceramic artists will compete for \$6,000 in cash prizes and all selected pieces will be shown at Elder Gallery during the month of June.

"When I founded *Carolina's Got Art!* in 2009, my goal was to create opportunity for local artists and give them incentive to continue on their path of creativity," says Elder. "For many artists, juried competitions are an important part of launching and sustaining successful careers. Our mission is to continue to offer opportunities to support and to encourage their creative process."

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/370-6337, visit ([www.elderart.com](http://www.elderart.com)), or visit ([www.carolinagotart.com](http://www.carolinagotart.com)).

## Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC, Offers Exhibition and Fundraiser

Ciel Gallery in Charlotte, NC's, South End will present *Skew The Master*, an exhibit and an online fundraiser to benefit the Arts and Science Council. The exhibition featuring fanciful takes on art we all know and love, and is on view from May 1 - 30, 2015. An opening reception will be held Friday, May 1, from 6-9pm during the Southend Gallery Crawl, and exhibiting artists will be present. The reception will also feature opportunities for visitors to Skew themselves à la Picasso or Magritte.

Admit it - you've looked at more than a few artistic masterpieces and thought, "I can

do that!" The artists of Ciel Gallery have taken tools in hand to have a go at the works of masters throughout the ages.

Among the artists Skewed will be Monet, Botticelli, Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Manet, Rothko, Wyeth, Van Gogh, Matisse, Rauschenberg, Picasso, Hockney, Toko, Chagall, Klimt, O'Keefe, Calder, Derain, Cornell, Shubun, Rigaud, Hokusai, van Oosterwijk, Rembrandt, and Dr. Seuss.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 704/496-9417 or visit ([www.cielcharlotte.com](http://www.cielcharlotte.com)).

## Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC, Offers Work by Eddie Hamrick

The Hickory Museum of Art in Hickory, NC is presenting *From The Master's Hands: Eddie Hamrick, Woodwright*, on view in the Museum's Coe Gallery, through Sept. 6, 2015.

The Museum will host a celebration in honor of Hamrick's 61st birthday and retrospective on Saturday, May 9, from 6-8pm. The public is invited to meet the artist, and enjoy refreshments, cake and live music by Second Hand Still. The event is free for HMA members and \$5 for non-members.

The installation explores the artist's 40-year career, and includes pieces from his earliest creative beginnings as well as his more recent masterworks. The exhibition features utilitarian and fine arts objects from public and private collections, including a Thomas Jefferson travel desk given to Governor McCrory by the artist, Arts and Crafts style furniture, ikebana planters, items created for the Catawba County Sesquicentennial, stringed instruments, toys, and more. The installation also includes a Woodwright Shop where Hamrick will work live in the gallery several days a month.



Eddie Hamrick as Geppetto. Pinocchio sculpture by Eddie Hamrick. Photograph by James Labrenz

Hamrick is largely a self-taught craftsman. After graduating from Newton-Conover High School in North Carolina in 1972, he apprenticed for five years at Colonial Williamsburg in Virginia before striking out on his own.

Hamrick has hand-crafted pieces for 6 United States Presidents and 4 North Carolina Governors. The artist has received numerous honors including: three-time

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You can contact us by calling 843/825-3408 or by e-mail at - [info@carolinaarts.com](mailto:info@carolinaarts.com) but do it before the 24th of the month prior to our next issue.