

# Cleveland County Arts Council

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the US State Dept. to exhibit work at the US Embassy in Riga, Latvia, as part of their "Art in Embassies" program. Her work is in both national, international, public and private collections.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 704/484-2787 or visit (<https://www.ccartscouncil.org/>).

## Cabarrus Arts Council in Concord, NC, Offers Group Exhibition

The Cabarrus Arts Council in Concord, NC, is presenting *From the Underground*, on view through Oct. 15, 2022.

This exhibition brings six artists to our front door whose works influence viewers to think differently and experience life differently. They have been here around us this entire time toiling away at their works and exhibiting them across Charlotte and her bubbling underground art scene. From photography to charcoal portraits to installation, come and see artists that represent the next generation of North Carolina's makers and creators." Artists include: Kalin Devone, Justin Ellis, Carey J. King, Carla Aaron-Lopez, Jamea Najé, and Shadae Tompkins.

Kalin Devone is a painter in Charlotte, NC. Her work focuses on portraiture and abstraction, intertwining the two with hypnotic swirling shapes. She has an interest in capturing the essence of individuals' personalities, skin tones and expressions through her brushwork using oil paint. With her use of vibrant colors weaving from the background to foreground of her pieces she invites viewers in to feel like they are a part of the painting.



Work by Justin Ellis

MFA in Photography and in 2012, received a MA in Printmaking. In 2010, she began her teaching career at Fort Valley State University as an adjunct professor and has been a Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools arts educator since 2014. She has experience in various creative fields from photojournalism to podcasting to arts exhibitions and continues to exhibit her personal works while teaching.

Charlotte, NC, based charcoal artist, Naje', has been honing her skills in charcoal portraiture for the past several years. She is the founder of The Broken Crayon Mobile Studio, which is a mobile art studio for anyone who wants to explore making process art. Naje' has also been an elementary art teacher for several years. As a charcoal portrait artist Naje's work is inspired by African American females and the beauty that comes out of the struggle of being a black girl/ woman in America. Deeply moving charcoal work with bold and playful colors showcase her obsessions with her culture and the women that her culture represents.

Shadae Tompkins is an interdisciplinary artist based in Rock Hill, SC. She has a BFA from Winthrop University. Her work includes sculpture, installation, and printmaking. Tompkins mainly uses recycled clothing, yarn, and other materials in her artistic practice. Her work prioritizes the experience of the young Black woman, fighting to maintain the legacy of Black creators before her. When she isn't in the art studio actively working, you can catch her in the music studio writing and recording.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 704/920-2787 or visit (<https://cabarrusartsCouncil.org/>).



Work by Carey J. King

Justin Ellis is from Charlotte, NC, and graduated from Northwest School of the Arts and the Art Institute in Durham, NC. He is currently an artist resident at The Brooklyn Collective. His inspiration is the fluid grace of nature. He is drawn to organic lines, authentic materials, layers that reveal patterns that make the eye dance. His artistic creation involves engaging all senses, capturing the soul and heartbeat of emotions and bringing them to life.

Carey J. King is a self-taught visual artist, and attended Central Piedmont Community College (2013-2014). He is presently the Director of Community Engagement, The Light Factory, Charlotte, NC.

Carla Aaron-Lopez is an artist-educator from Charlotte, NC. After graduating North Carolina Central University in 2006 with a BA in Graphic Design, she moved to Atlanta to attend Savannah College of Art & Design. In 2009, she graduated with a

## Southern Arts Society in Kings Mountain, NC, Features Works by Jeffrey J. Bowers

The Southern Arts Society in Kings Mountain, NC, is presenting *Jeffrey J. Bowers - The Plein Air Collection*, on view through Sept. 17, 2022.

All the paintings shown in this exhibit are painted en plein air or in the open air on location. Bowers considers himself an artist in the Modern Impressionist style. Working in acrylics, he paints landscapes, cityscapes, still life, pets, buildings, and vehicles in and around the Piedmont area of western North Carolina. There are 36 paintings in this exhibit, with the majority featuring landscapes and city scenes in Gastonia, NC, where Bowers lives.

To keep his artistic skills sharp, Bowers paints outdoors, "in the open air" as often as possible. His dedication was rewarded recently when the *12th Annual PleinAir Salon Art Competition* announced its monthly



Work by Jeffrey J. Bowers

winners for their April Competition. The PleinAir Salon is a national online art competition hosted by *PleinAir Magazine*. Bowers was awarded the best Plein Air winner in the Acrylic Category for April with his painting titled, *Late Summer Afternoon*. This puts Bowers in the running, along with other monthly winners for the grand prize, to be announced in May 2023.

Even when working on location, most

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of Bowers' paintings are completed in less than two hours. Smaller canvases, and water based acrylic paint call for fast paced brushwork. Bowers uses his commercial art training to accurately draw the foundation of the painting, then using as few brushstrokes and details as possible, he quickly captures the feeling and atmosphere of the scene. An accomplished artist, Bowers takes great satisfaction in mixing colors on his palette to match what nature presents in front of him. And while painting in the "impressionist" style concentrates on light and color over detail, locations and objects are easily recognizable to the viewer.

For further information check our NC



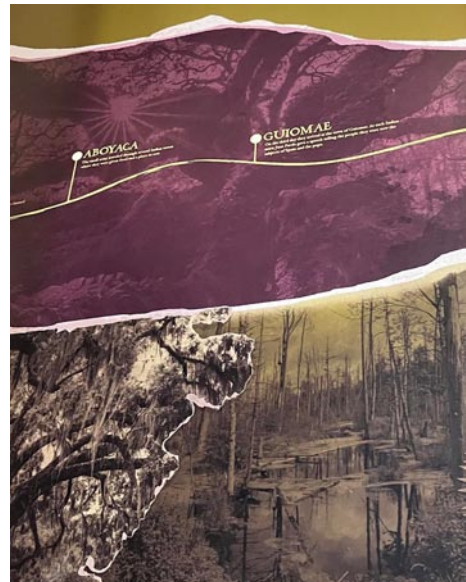
Work by Jeffrey J. Bowers

Institutional Gallery listings or visit ([www.SouthernArtsSociety.org](http://www.SouthernArtsSociety.org)).

## USC Lancaster in Lancaster, SC, Offers New Exhibitions

From archaeology in Western North Carolina to Native nations in 18th Century South Carolina to contemporary portraiture of Catawba citizens, USC Lancaster's Native American Studies Center in Lancaster, SC, including: *Unearthing Our Forgotten Past: Fort San Juan*, on view in the Center's Red Rose Gallery, through Dec. 20, 2022; *Resilience and Revolution: Native Peoples in 18th Century South Carolina*, on view in the Center's North Gallery, through Sept. 24, 2022; and *Discussions with Elders: A Photographic Essay*, on view in the Center's Five Points Gallery, through June 15, 2023.

The exhibition was developed by the Exploring Joara Foundation as part of the 450th anniversary celebrations of the Juan Pardo expeditions through Western North Carolina, this exhibit showcases the Spanish occupation of Fort San Juan and the lives of the Native people who lived in the Joara area.



"Unearthing Our Forgotten Past: Fort San Juan," developed by the Exploring Joara Foundation.

On view in the Center's North Gallery is the traveling exhibit, *Resilience and Revolution: Native Peoples in 18th Century South Carolina*, on view through Sept. 24, 2022. This exhibit, developed by historian Dr. Alice Taylor-Colbert with NAS Center



Catawba artist Alex Osborn photographs Catawba flute and drum maker Monty "Hawk" Branham for the exhibit *Discussions with Elders: A Photographic Essay*.

Assistant Director, Professor Chris Judge, and former NAS Co-Director, Dr. Brooke Bauer; and other scholars, highlights some of South Carolina's more well-documented Native nations before and during the era of the Revolution, looking at Native cultures, gender, and relations with Europeans in this era.

This exhibit is funded by South Carolina Humanities, the Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelly Foundation, and the "A More Perfect Union" initiative from the National Endowment from the Humanities.

Finally, *Discussions with Elders: A Photographic Essay*, is on view in the Center's Five Points Gallery, through June 15, 2023. This exhibit, developed by NAS Center staff and faculty and funded, in part, through a grant from the SC Arts Commission's Folklife and Traditional Arts Program, displays the portraits of Catawba artists and elders as photographed by Catawba artist Alex Osborn.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 803/313-7172 or visit ([www.sc.edu/Lancaster/NAS](http://www.sc.edu/Lancaster/NAS)).

## University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, Features Works by Julie Schnell-Madden and Lydia C. Thompson

The University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC, is presenting *Socially Engaged Ceramics*, on view in the McMaster Gallery, through Sept. 29, 2022. A closing reception will be held on Sept. 29, from 5-7pm.

*Socially Engaged Ceramics* is a two-person exhibition of ceramic artwork by Julie Schnell-Madden and Lydia C. Thompson. Schnell-Madden and Thompson's ceramic artworks are stylistically distinct but united by their intention to present timely, yet historically informed, sociopolitical commentary through the medium of ceramics.

The dilapidated house structures in Thompson's Relic series represent the working-class family home. The broken shards that fill these houses, made from her grandmother's reclaimed ceramic figurines, symbolize negative memories, family loss, unemployment, shattered dreams, and the change evoked by remov-



Work by Julie Schnell-Madden

ing confederate monuments.

Schnell-Madden's spiral Rosettes - floral abstractions of femininity - reflect her despair and fears concerning the ongoing corrosion of women's reproductive rights

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