

# Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, Features Works by Vera B. Williams

The Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center in Asheville, NC, will present *Vera B. Williams / STORIES: Eight Decades of Politics and Picture Making*, on view from Jan. 26 through May 11, 2024.

Vera B. Williams attended BMC from 1945-1950 when she became one of the few to formally graduate. She was a student of Josef Albers and had sculptor Richard Lippold as her outside examiner prior to graduation. She married architect Paul Williams at the college and, with him, co-founded the artists' co-op community called The Land in Stony Point, New York. Williams was an award-winning author and illustrator of children's books that often centered on diverse, working-class families, perhaps informed by her own childhood growing up during the Depression as the daughter of immigrants from Eastern Europe.

The Land at Stony Point, also known as Gate Hill Cooperative, became an outcropping of Black Mountain College's experimental ethos. It was inspired by a BMC faculty member Paul Goodman's *Communitas: Means of Livelihood and Ways of Life*, which he lectured on at the Summer Institute of 1950. BMC luminaries John Cage, David Tudor, M.C. Richards, Karen Karnes, David Weinrib, Stan VanDerBeek, and Patsy Lynch Wood shaped Gate Hill as founding members of the community alongside Vera Baker and Paul Williams.

The Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center (BMCM+AC) preserves and



Andy Oates, Vera Williams, ca. 1950. Collection of BMCM+AC.

continues the legacy of educational and artistic innovation of Black Mountain College (BMC). We achieve our mission through collection, conservation, and educational activities including exhibitions, publications, and public programs.

Arts advocate Mary Holden founded BMCM+AC in 1993 to celebrate the history of Black Mountain College as a forerunner in progressive interdisciplinary education and to explore its extraordinary impact on modern and contemporary art, dance, theater, music, and performance. Today, the museum remains committed to educating the public about BMC's history and raising awareness of its extensive legacy. Our goal is to provide a gathering point for people from a variety of backgrounds to interact through art, ideas, and discourse.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/350-8484 or e-mail to ([info@blackmountaincollege.org](mailto:info@blackmountaincollege.org)).

# Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, Features Works by April Flanders at Turchin Center

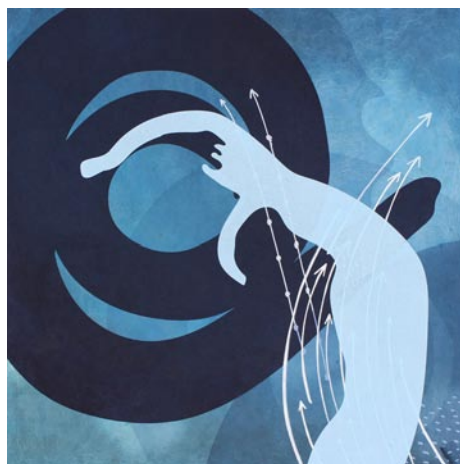
Appalachian State University in Boone, NC, will present *Trophic Cascade: April Flanders*, on view in the Hodges Gallery at the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, from Jan. 16 through June 1, 2024.

The web of life under the surface of aquatic ecosystems is exceedingly complex and devastatingly beautiful. In a place where species interactions begin at a microscopic level, small changes have huge impacts and huge changes wreak havoc. Remove a key predator, and prey takes over; add another predator, and the first one declines. With the rise of globalization, human mediated transfer mechanisms give rise to invasive species, overwhelming the delicate balance of aquatic ecosystems. These unintended ecological interventions cause *Trophic Cascades*, revealing nature's fragility.



Work by April Flanders

Invasion biology in marine environments is especially fraught. The eradication or management of invasive species on land, while economically and environmentally challenging, is possible. The successful management of these species underwater is nearly impossible. This exhibition addresses the causes and impacts of marine bio-invasaders on a global scale, conferring visibility to species normally unseen. With this work, I create a conversation between art and science, raising awareness around a problem that lacks an easy solution.



Work by April Flanders

Flanders is a studio artist living and making in the mountains of Western North Carolina. A keen naturalist, her work has been featured in solo and group shows at museums and galleries nationally and internationally, including the Katzen Museum in Washington, DC, the Center for the Book Arts, in New York, and the Global Print International, in Douro, Portugal.

Recent honors include an online exhibition as a semi-finalist in the *92nd Annual Competition* at the Print Center in Philadelphia, PA, and a residency at the Virginia Center for Creative Arts in Amherst, VA.

Recent solo exhibitions include *Lost Blooms* at Donald H. Lindgren Gallery in Newberg, OR and *Unchecked* at Artspace in Richmond, VA. Her work is in many public collections, including the Asheville Museum of Science, the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art, and the Tucson Museum of Art.

Flanders holds a Master of Fine Arts from Arizona State University; she has taught printmaking for fourteen years at various universities nationally and internationally. Currently, she is a Professor of Studio Art at Appalachian State University.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/262-3017 or visit ([www.turchincenter.org](http://www.turchincenter.org)).

# Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, Offers Regional Student Works

The Asheville Art Museum in Asheville, NC, will present the *2024 WNC Regional Scholastic Art Awards*, on view in the Museum's The Van Winkle Law Firm Gallery and Multipurpose Space, from Jan. 24 through Mar. 25, 2024.

The Asheville Art Museum, with the assistance of its volunteer educators and support from the Asheville Area Section of the American Institute of Architects, is proud to be a regional affiliate partner hosting the *Western North Carolina (WNC) Regional Scholastic Art Awards* each year. Students in grades 7-12 from all across Western North Carolina are invited to submit work for this special juried competition. The Museum works with the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers to facilitate regional judging of student artwork and to recognize our community's burgeoning artistic talent.

Each year, award winners are featured in an exhibition and are honored at a ceremony. Regional Gold Key recipients' work is sent to the national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition hosted by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers.

All regional award recipients will be honored at our closing reception on Mar. 21,



Astrid Salinger, "Enigmatic Berry," Painting, Silsa-Asheville High School, Grade 10, Gold Key winner from 2022

2024.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 828/253-3227 or visit ([www.ashevilleart.org](http://www.ashevilleart.org)).

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