

Number 7 Arts Gallery in Brevard

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tion phase of the project was managed by member-artist Holland Van Gores, who volunteered his time as general contractor. Van Gores and his team worked from plans donated by gallery friend Michael Rosenthal, whose intention was to design the most flexible and attractive space possible while respecting the gallery's budget and aesthetic priorities.

Befitting the gallery's prominent placement at one of downtown Brevard's main intersections, the window displays are delightful; featuring an assortment of mediums and styles sure to engage passers-by, beckoning them into the gallery for a closer look.

New color-keyed awnings are attached to the exterior of the building, which also benefits from a new entrance, fresh paint and restored trim work around the upper perimeter. Plywood above the street-level windows was removed to reveal a second set of windows, enhancing the building's exterior appearance while adding height and light to the interior of the space. Wainscoting was removed to reveal the original brick, and long-missing metal accent detail strips were recreated from the original molds and replaced above the windows. A "Number 7 Arts" tile mosaic laid into the floor welcomes visitors to the gallery.

Inside, the new space crackles with energy. The visitor is presented with an almost-dizzying array of things to see. Among the first things noticed is the gleaming hardwood floor, which has been restored throughout the gallery. Sections gone missing from years of remodels were replaced with matching lumber, after which the floor was completely refinished to restore its original warm luster and charm. The walls have been given a fresh two-tone coat of paint meant to provide a sense of infinity to the space and optimal viewing conditions for the works.

Moveable display partitions, an innovative art hanging system, a large lighting grid, display cabinets and pedestals combine to lend flexibility to the layout and allow for a number of display configurations. Member-artist Joe Bruneau took on the job of staging the space for its opening; masterfully incorporating an eclectic mix of pieces from the gallery's wide variety of artists and mediums, mixing and matching to fill the space with a visual feast of compelling displays ensuring that wherever the gaze lands, there's something more to take in.

Several newly-selected member-artists made their debuts in the new gallery space. Their contributions add to the richness and diversity of offerings presented by the gallery and their participation expands the community the gallery serves as a program of the Transylvania Community Arts Council to promote, support and encourage local artists and their work.

The member-artists and friends of Number 7 Arts set out to create a model cooperative gallery of which the community and region can be rightfully proud;



View of the gallery space opening

to transform the gallery from just another shop along the way into a destination for those who love and appreciate art in all its forms.

On a cold January evening, witnessed and warmed by two hours of near-capacity crowds, brisk sales, laughter, smiles, familiar and new faces and heaps of praise for the beauty of the space and for the art that animates it, we have to say a resounding: "Mission Accomplished."

The Number 7 Arts Gallery cooperative was founded in 1998 by Jinks Ramsey, Cindy Platt, Bob Massengill, Susan Threlkel and John Candler. The gallery opened its doors on Mar. 4, 1999 as a program of the Transylvania County Arts Council (TC Arts). There were 19 original member-artists.

The vision for Number 7 Arts Gallery is three-fold: to give local artists an opportunity to develop their skills in promoting and selling their own work; to promote the creation of fine art of all types in Brevard and Western North Carolina; and to foster the community formed by the gallery, the TC Arts Council, and the general public.

Number 7 Arts Gallery presents a variety of mediums and high-quality artwork by outstanding local artists. Each artist is encouraged to push the boundaries of their medium and learn all they can about the day-to-day operations of the organization, as well as new ways to promote their talents and those of their fellow members.

The goal of Number 7 Arts Gallery is to become a model for co-operative art galleries. The gallery is unique in that each member must be invited, and the invitation is based on artistic merit and gallery "fit" as determined by the jury committee during a series of viewings and interviews. This curation process ensures the quality and mix of the work presented. Each artist pays a nominal monthly fee and must agree to work in the gallery several days a month.

Learn more about Number 7 Arts by visiting its website at (<http://www.number7arts.org>) or dropping by its new location at 2 West Main Street, Brevard, NC.

Arts Council of Henderson County in Hendersonville, NC, Features Annual "Mentors & Students" Shows

The Arts Council of Henderson County is presenting a series of exhibitions as a thematic unit entitled *Mentors & Students* at First Citizens Bank, 539 N. Main St., Hendersonville, NC. Celebrating the importance of art in a child's life, the three exhibitions will feature the work of Henderson County elementary students, secondary students, and their art mentors.

Art Teachers Create, the second show in the series featuring the artwork of Henderson County's art teachers, will open with a reception on Mar. 3, from 5:30 to 7pm, and will close Mar. 10, 2017. All artwork will be for sale during the *Mentors* exhibition. The public will have a chance to win a piece of art from this show in a free raffle sponsored by The Gallery at Flat Rock. The winning name will be Page 32 - Carolina Arts, March 2017



Work by Jamie Jacoby

drawn at the end of the series of shows on Mar. 24.

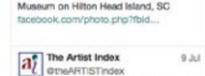
Secondary students will be featured in the third show of the series, *Artists of* continued on Page 33

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