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María V. Howard Arts Center

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Nathan Sawaya is an acclaimed New York-based artist who creates awe-inspiring artwork out of a toy. His art focuses on large-scale sculptures using only LEGO® bricks. Sawaya was the first artist to ever take LEGO® into the art world and his touring exhibition - The Art of the Brick® - has entertained and inspired millions of art lovers and enthusiasts from Australia, Taiwan, Singapore, China and around the world. CNN heralded, The Art of the Brick® is one of the top 12 must-see exhibits in the world!" Originally from Oregon, Sawaya's childhood dreams were always fun and creative. He drew cartoons, wrote stories, perfected magic tricks and of course also played with LEGO®. His days were filled with imagination. When it came time for college, Sawaya moved to New York City, attended NYU and became a lawyer But after years of million dollar mergers and corporate acquisitions on Park Avenue, Sawaya realized he would rather be sitting on the floor creating art, than sitting in a board room negotiating contracts. He walked away from the law and took an artistic risk on LEGO®. Now Sawaya is an author, speaker and one of the most popular, award-winning contemporary artists of our time. Dean West is an acclaimed and award winning photographer who specializes in highly conceptual and thought provoking contemporary portraiture. His body of work



Tisdale took interest and was able to get him involved in an art program. However, being the true artist that he was, throughout most of his life, he pursued acquiring skills on his own.

Evans fell ill in the late 1980's, suffering a stroke that paralyzed the right side of his body, which was the side he used for painting. In the early 1990's he returned home to South Carolina. His passion and determination was so strong that he taught himself to paint with his left hand. After his return to South Carolina, that true love for art kept him motivated to continually create. Evans has a powerful improvisational Cubist style emphasizing the human figure and portraiture imbued with African American sentiment.

Evans' work was exhibited at Benedict College in 1994 and featured in Visions of Self-taught Artists: 9 from SC a show featured at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC, which traveled to Washington, DC, in 1995. His estate is represented by The Art Room Gallery in Greenville, NC.



this world, leaving the legacy of these and many more works of art for others to admire and enjoy. Be sure to find an opportunity to share his legacy. For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call 252/469-8577 or e-mail to (eadelman@ncwc.edu).

Work by Nathan Sawaya

has been featured in top photography magazines and art galleries around the world. Born in Australia and currently living in Toronto, Dean has also been named "one of the world's best emerging photographers" by After Capture Magazine and included in Saatchi & Saatchi's collection of the world's top 100 emerging photographers.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 252/972-1175 or e-mail to (alicyn. wiedrich@rockymountnc.gov).

NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC, Features Works by Willie Lee Evans

NC Wesleyan College in Rocky Mount, NC, is presenting Life Works: by the late Willie Lee Evans, on view in the Civic Gallery of the Dunn Center, through Oct. 30, 2015.

Willie Lee Evans (W.E.) was born March 23, 1948, to John Earl and Malvola Evans, Page 24 - Carolina Arts, June 2015

in Alcolu, SC. At the age of nine, Evans and his family moved to Bridgeport, CT. It was there, in the fourth grade, at Long Fellow Elementary School, that his love for art began. After admiring several of his art pieces, his seventh grade teacher, Mrs.

Evans was a very quiet and intelligent man who not only loved to draw, but also loved to read. Any time spent away from drawing and painting was to perfect his craft or indulge in a good book. He loved to do portraits and abstract art. On December 28, 2013, Willie Lee Evans passed from

Sunset River Marketplace in Calabash, NC, Feature Works by Marty Allran

Sunset River Marketplace art gallery in Calabash, NC, is presenting Sculptural Clay Art by Wilmington, NC, clay artist Marty Allran, on view through June 6, 2015.

Allran is known for her one-of-a-kind hand-built clay sculptures, displaying fluidity and freedom of form. Her fascination with sculpting clay began as a child playing in the red clay riverbanks near her NC home. This affinity became her impetus for studying art and earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interior Design and Art from Eastcontinued above on next column to the right | ern Michigan University. After retiring from

the interior design business, Allran adopted clay as her sole medium of expression.

Incorporating the natural textures of coastal and mountainous areas in North Carolina, her creations are inviting to the eve and to the touch. Her style, originality and creativity are exemplified by the variety of her work, which includes unique vessels and artistic accent pieces as well as an occasional sculpture with a hint of whimsy. The artist says, "It is my hope that my art is received with the same pleasure that I continued on Page 25

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