

Florence County Museum

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ties for emerging South Carolina artists. Competition is also important in pushing creative boundaries. That is something the Florence County Museum supports.”

The 2025 Eastern Carolina Contemporary Biennial is organized by the Florence County Museum. Generous support for this project is provided by Chick-fil-A of Florence. Chick-fil-A is a committed advocate for the Florence County Museum and the visual arts community.

The Florence County Museum exists to provide a dynamic sanctuary for the preservation, interpretation, and exhibition of objects of scientific, historical, and artistic significance that are unique or of special interest to the people of Florence County and



Charles Clary of Conway, SC, "Memento Vivere-diddle Movement #20", Hand-cut paper and wallpaper on distressed drywall

the Pee Dee region of South Carolina.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (flocmuseum.org/exhibitions/2025-biennial/).

Francis Marion University in Florence, NC, Features Works by John W. Jones & Margaret Seidler

Francis Marion University in Florence, NC, is presenting "Payne-ful" Business: Charleston's Journey to Truth, featuring an exhibit by writer Margaret Seidler and painter John W. Jones, on view in the Steven F. Gately Gallery, through May 15, 2025. On Apr. 8, at 6pm, the University will offer a talk with author Margaret Seidler and Polly Sheppard, survivor, Mother Emanuel AME Church tragedy. On Apr. 15, at 6pm, there will be an Art Walk with John W. Jones & Margaret Seidler.

Margaret Seidler is a retired Organization & Leadership Development consultant, national conference speaker, and author. She was born and raised in Charleston, SC. In the aftermath of the Mother Emanuel massacre, she and former City Police Chief Greg Mullen led the Charleston Illumination Project, a year-long effort, designed to give all parts of the community a voice in strengthening citizen/police relationships. During recent ancestry research, she discovered her familial relationship to the brokering of thousands of enslaved people. Her book,

and subsequent exhibit, "Payne-ful" Business, Charleston's Journey to Truth follows her process to healing and amends.

John W. Jones is an African American artist who first gained national acclaim for his book and painting series, *Confederate Currency: The Color of Money*. Self-taught and drafted into the US Army in 1970, he served in Vietnam, eventually becoming an Army illustrator. Jones has worked as a freelance artist for close to three decades. Former clients include *Time Life Books*, IBM, Rubbermaid, NASA, Goddard Space and Flight Center, and the US Postal Service.

Jones and Seidler met in February 2023 through a mutual friend, owner of the Gallery Chuma in Charleston. This collaboration brings to life Charleston's history through visual representations of the enslaved offered for sale.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/661-4637 or visit (<https://www.fmarion.edu/universityplace/>).

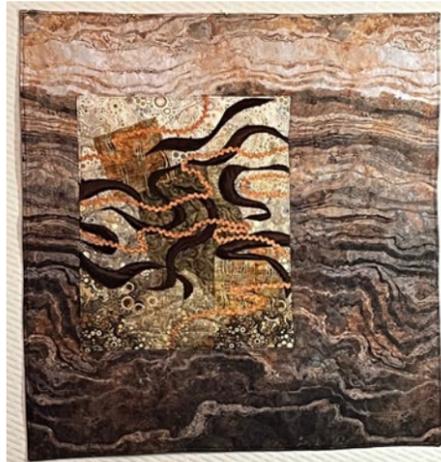
Town of Cary, NC, Offers Annual Quilt Exhibition by PAQA-South

The Town of Cary, NC, is presenting the 2025 exhibition *ARTQuiltswild!*, featuring works by members of the Professional Art Quilters Alliance-South (PAQA-South) on view at the Page-Walker Arts & History Center, through May 10, 2025.

Wild can be exciting, remarkable, chaotic, turbulent, extravagant, enthusiastic, natural, fierce, untamed, outrageous, unexpected. PAQA-South members have created multi-layered textiles joined by stitching that express or represent wild!

Works have been judged by creativity, originality, striking design, impact, creative use of materials, and strong interpretation of the theme, *ARTQuiltswild!*

The exhibit has been adjudicated by professional fiber artist Marguerite Jay (Peg) Gignoux.



Work by Jana Lankford

Three \$500 awards for excellence in design and relation to theme *ARTQuiltswild!* include: One Juror's Choice, one Members' Choice, and one Gallery Choice awards.

The Professional Art Quilters Alliance-



Work by Natalie Rockley

South (PAQA-South) was formed by several art quilters living in the southeastern United States. The first organizational meetings were held in the Raleigh/Cary area of North Carolina during the spring and fall of 2002. Although originally limited to artists living in the Southeast, PAQA-South now boasts members from across the United States.

The organization was patterned after the Professional Art Quilt Alliance (PAQA) in Chicago. PAQA generously allowed PAQA-South to derive its name from theirs and follow similar organizational activities. PAQA and PAQA-South are separate and unaffiliated organizations. PAQA-South became a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation in 2009.

In 2019, PAQA-South began to host and support an open meeting of members and non-members called Common Threads to provide an open venue to encourage and educate anyone interested in art quilts and fiber arts. Our monthly meetings are open to all. Attendees can share their latest work

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and get feedback if they desire it. We have ongoing challenge projects and presentations by members. For further info on PAQA-South visit (<https://www.paqa-south.org/artquiltswild>).

For further information check our

Golden Belt Artists in Durham, NC, Features Works by Christine Hager-Braun and Tim Thayer

Durham, NC-based artists Christine Hager-Braun and Tim Thayer will present *Bold Layers* at the Golden Belt Artists Main Gallery located at the Mill/Warehouse, on Taylor Street in Durham, NC. The exhibition will be on display from Apr. 1 - 29, 2025. An artists' talk is scheduled for Apr. 05, at 6pm. A reception will be held during Durham's Third Friday Art Walk on Apr. 18, 6-9pm.

Bold Layers is the first exhibition together of artists Christine Hager-Braun and Tim Thayer. Both are Golden Belt studio artists working with color and shape yet working in different materials and meaning.

Hager-Braun creates contemporary abstract fiber art from narrow strips of fabric with topics revolving around inner strength and determination in the context of mental health, chronic illness, and invisible disability. Thayer's message and purpose are an exploration and acknowledgment of the creative process itself and the unknown created through paint and found objects/collage.



Work by Tim Thayer

The inspiration for Hager-Braun's boldly colored fiber art is rooted in conversations with viewers of her work. These dialogues peel away layers that protect us from being vulnerable, uncovering the courage to speak freely, thereby revealing resilience, hope and compassion

Some Exhibits That Are Still On View

Our policy at *Carolina Arts* is to present a press release about an exhibit or event only once and then go on, but many major exhibits are on view for months. This is our effort to remind you of some of them.



Elizabeth Bradford, "Apple Tree, Poison Ivy", 2024, acrylic on canvas, 98 x 60 in., Courtesy of the Artist

Davidson College in Davidson, NC, is presenting *Warp Weft Water Weeds*, featuring works by Elizabeth Bradford, on view in the Van Every/Smith Galleries, in the Belk Visual Arts Center, through Apr. 9, 2025. The exhibition highlights the talent of an artist who has spent fifty years diligently working within our own community, capturing the evolving landscapes she holds dear. Bradford draws inspiration from a profound connection to nature through direct observations while hiking or kayaking primarily in the Southeastern United States where she resides. While her works are predominantly representational, they also maintain a relationship with abstraction. Bradford is a native Carolin-

NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 919/460-4963 or visit (<https://www.carync.gov/recreation-enjoyment/arts-culture/public-art-galleries/gallery-exhibitions>).



Work by Christine Hager-Braun

in times of adversity.

In her studio practice Hager-Braun then selects one thought or emotion of the interaction and turns it into a visualization of the energy the conversation conveyed to her. She depicts this energy through the choice of colors, the degree of fragmentation of the lines, and the orientation of the lines either vertically or horizontally.

Sewing little pieces of fabric together, assembling many voices into one bigger story, allows Hager-Braun to share universal lessons stemming from individual pain and personal triumphs.

Through layers of paint and diverse collage materials - cloth, paper, and rubber - Tim Thayer creates meditative spaces that balance bold design with a sense of calm. His process begins with a blank surface, where shapes organically form into symbols or abstract compositions, sometimes incorporating words and graphic elements. Rather than seeking to influence art history, the artist focuses on creating in a way that stays true to his instincts and discovered vision. Thayer's work acknowledges the unknown layers of meaning in the universe, inviting viewers on a journey of reflection and discovery.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (goldbeltartists.com).

ian, with deep roots in the rural landscape. Her work often centers on images drawn from her rural community and her family's century farm in north Mecklenburg County. In recent years she has used her passion for backpacking as inspiration for large scale paintings of the wild. For further information visit (www.davidsoncollegeartgalleries.org).



Work by Jessica Swank

Columbia College in Columbia, SC, is presenting *The Structure Nexus*, featuring work by Brooke Day, Ashley Rabanal, Jessica Swank of Zero Space Collective, and guest artist Tyson Gentry, on view in the main space of the Goodall Gal-

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