

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

October 6-16, 2016

Miller-Murphy-Howard Building

Each year the Georgia National Fair invites selected artists to participate in our Artists in Residence program. The goal of the program is to expose the fairgoers to the arts through demonstrations and interaction with these artists. Artists in Residence are traditionally selected from previous winners of the competition.



Atlanta Woodcarvers Club
Oct. 6-7

Atlanta Woodcarvers Club was founded in 1976 by a group of carvers in the Atlanta area with the purpose of promoting woodcarving/wood sculpting on all levels of performance, and providing fellowship and support to local woodcarvers. The club grew in membership to a record level and then some members split off to form suburban clubs. AWC collaborates with other metro clubs in joint projects such as staffing an Atlanta woodcarving booth at the annual Southeast Woodworking Show. Please visit www.atlantawoodcarvers.com for more information.



**Sandy Gilreath,
Macon**
Oct. 6-8

In Sycamore, Georgia, Sandy grew up the daughter of master craftsmen (a builder and a seamstress). Her parents did not think of their work as art, but as skills honed to support the family. The skills they exhibited influenced Sandy to strive for excellence. Sandy grew up to become a math teacher, primarily in Houston County schools, exercising the left side of her brain. Sewing was always in her life, primarily for clothing and home decor. But at the age of 50, she fulfilled a lifelong dream of learning more about making quilts. Upon retirement, she began to nourish the right side of her brain.

She began with traditional quilts, mastering the skills of piecing, appliqué, and free-motion machine quilting. Never shy about a new approach, Sandy has worked with raw-edge appliqué, photographs, blueprints, and mixed media. Her latest additions to her repertoire include crayon rubbing and original drawings on fabric. Sandy has won numerous awards for her quilting: at the Georgia National Fair, at local guild shows, and at the international level at the American Quilters' Society in Paducah, KY. She gives lectures and teaches classes in various quilting techniques, publishes patterns for some of her designs, and has written a book; 52 Tuesdays: A Quilt Journal.



**Wyatt Nocera,
Thomasville**
Oct. 9-10

Raised in Northern Virginia, Wyatt received a BS degree from Virginia Tech and a MAT in Math Education from UNC Chapel Hill. She taught high school mathematics and directed programs for gifted students for 35 years in Arlington, Virginia. Her last year of teaching, the art department was discarding an old Appalachian rug loom and a new adventure began. Ten looms and two spinning wheels later, her world is filled with fiber, color and ever changing ways to use them. She has studied extensively, taking classes in both traditional and modern weaving and spinning techniques.

She and her husband moved to Thomasville, Georgia in 2005 and she has been exploring the world of functional fiber art in earnest. Having been knitting since the age of eight, she now spins and dyes much of her own yarn and is constantly experimenting to find new uses for her many works. She sells her pieces through galleries in South Georgia and North Florida and has won numerous awards including the Award for Excellence in Spinning and Weaving at the 2015 Georgia National Fair.

She thinks of her work as "Friendly Fiber" combining many techniques to create functional fiber art. She hopes people will use or wear her pieces and find comfort in them. By doing so the user is connected to the weaver and spinner and the past to the present.



**Marjorie Hill,
Townsend**
Oct. 9-10

Marjorie is a testament that you are never too old to find a new passion. After careers in nursing, teaching intellectually disabled adults, and raising two boys, she relocated from Williamsburg, Virginia to coastal Georgia in 2012, with her husband Scott. The arts have always been a part of Marjorie's life, through dance, piano, and voice, but it was just little over a year ago she picked up her first paint brush, and has not put it down since.

Marjorie was invited by a friend at her local church to visit her oil painting class to explore possible interest in painting. Well, she did, and admits it was love at first sight. She dove right in, with the support and inspiration from fellow local artist in Shellman Bluff, Georgia. Marjorie has been overwhelmed by the outpouring of encouragement and positive reactions to her paintings.

She hesitantly joined the Jekyll Art Association and entered her first art show last spring. She laughingly admits she did not know what to expect; however, she won her first ever ribbon, and it was blue.

As a true Amateur with no education in art, Marjorie spends time reading and educating herself on various painting techniques, but admits she falls back to advice given by her friend Karen Burnett, a local coastal artist, "Paint what you see, not what you know." She is amazed by what her eyes can truly see. Her love of gardening,

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animals, and the outdoors are evident in the subjects she chooses to paint. She loves vibrant color and capturing light in her paintings. Marjorie enjoys painting with a special group of artists in her local community, attending plein air events, painting workshops, and sharing her new passion with family and friends.

Marjorie won Best in Show here at the Georgia National Fair in 2015 in the Fine Arts Amateur Division. with her painting "Nanny", a colorful interpretation of a group of farm goats from her son's farm. "The personality on each goats face drew me in, I knew I had to paint the goats." I am honored that "Nanny" was selected for the cover of the 2016 Fine Arts brochure. " I love this new journey I have found myself on, and look forward to where it may take me."



**Wes Jones,
Lawrenceville
Oct. 11**

Wes Jones has been a lifelong woodturner and woodworker. Retired in 2001 after a 31-year career as a fiber optic apparatus design engineer with Lucent Technologies and Bell Laboratories, he now works full-time as a woodturning artist specializing in large decorative pieces, such as bowls, hollow forms, and vases. He is

most well known for his large hollow form creations made from native trees. Wes is very active in promoting the development of woodturning art and furthering woodturning education, demonstrating frequently at various woodturning clubs and commercial venues. He periodically teaches woodturning courses at the John C. Campbell Folk School in Brasstown, North Carolina, and also gives private woodturning instruction at his studio. Wes has demonstrated at both the Turning Southern Style and the Southern States woodturning symposiums. He has published a number of articles in *American Woodturner* and *Woodturning Design* magazines.

Wes is a member of the American Association of Woodturners and is very active in three chapters in Georgia. He is a past President of the Georgia Association of Woodturners in Atlanta and also of the Chattahoochee Woodturners in Gainesville, GA. He is a past Vice-President of the Peach State Woodturners in Oxford, Georgia. Wes has received over 40 awards for his work. His work has been displayed at the Reinhardt College Museum of Art, the Georgia National Fair, the John C. Campbell Folk School, the Douglasville Art Center, the Perry Art Center, and at various art shows and woodturning symposiums. His pieces can be found in private collections throughout the country and the world. His work is available in a number of fine art galleries in Georgia.



**Don Coker, Columbus
Oct. 11-12**

Don Coker is an award-winning former newspaper art director / designer / illustrator / cartoonist, published in newspapers from coast to coast and abroad. His work in design and illustration has garnered dozens of awards. In 2006 Coker and the assist team from the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, were recognized for their part in working with the Sun-Herald team from Biloxi/Gulfport Mississippi for Pulitzer Prize winning Hurricane Katrina coverage. Coker's career began at the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer with stints to follow at the Billings Gazette in Montana and the Sun-Sentinel in Ft. Lauderdale, before returning to Columbus for the remainder of his newspaper career. For 36 years Coker created colorful illustrations (with emphasis on caricature and satire) and graphics covering the daily news from politics and sports to pop culture. All the while he was working on his personal ne art at night and on weekends, exhibiting as often as possible.

For the last seven years Coker's focus has been on building a ne art career with a broad scope.

His interests are varied, from painting trains and the industrial landscape, classic cars and traditional landscape to portrait painting. Coker also has a strong interest in satirical work, Charles Bragg and Jack Levine. You can take the artist out of journalism, but you can't take journalism out of the

artist.

Coker lives and works in Columbus, Georgia, sharing creative space with his song-writing wife, Bernadette, who is also a gifted photographer. They have three adult children, two grandchildren and one more by the time this is published.



**Daryl Rickard,
Peachtree City
Oct. 12-13**

Daryl Rickard's journey as a woodturner started as he watched his dad in his home shop. The sounds and feels of his dad's shop set the foundation for his own expression in wood. His first exposure to the lathe was in eighth grade shop class during a time when the lathe was used primarily to produce utilitarian pieces for furniture. He bought his first lathe in the early nineties. With that first lathe, the lure of turning a raw log into art became an addiction. The sensual nature of wood with its smell, feel and visual appeal of grain, color, and imperfections offers Daryl the outlet for his creative bent.

With the beginning of the American Woodturners Association thirty years ago, lathing has exploded as an art form. Because of that popularity, Daryl has benefited from local turning clubs and national symposiums sponsored by the AAW throughout the country. He has had the privilege to meet many of the best turners in the world and watch their demos. They have all had their influence on his work. Daryl is currently a member of the AAW and the

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Georgia Association of Woodturners. Daryl's work evolves over time. Since he generally starts with green wood, each piece is a compilation of years of turning, drying, and returning it to the lathe. He primarily uses native hardwoods, combining woodturning with carving, woodburning, texturing, and painting to create his pieces. He loves the dynamic nature of wood. The moving and changing of each piece of wood contributes to the final work. Each piece of wood in its raw form speaks to the creation within, making each piece unique.

Daryl has had his work in various galleries throughout the metro Atlanta area and now shows through The Southern Hands Artist Studio Tour in Fayette County, which occurs the second weekend in November. He has participated over the last several years in the woodturning competition at the Georgia National Fair and has had the privilege of winning best of show twice. Daryl resides with his wife, Darby, in Peachtree City, Georgia, where he is a full time veterinarian.



**Brandon McCullar,
Loganville
Oct. 13-15**

L. Brandon McCullar was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He studied art at Montevallo, The University of Alabama, Complutense University,

Madrid, and the John Campbell Folk School for Blacksmithing.

He has traveled throughout Europe, Asia, and South America while studying and has shown in galleries in Atlanta, Alabama, Paraguay, Madrid, and Paris. He taught art at Stillman College and the University of Alabama. He currently has art at the Telfair Museum in Savannah. Brandon McCullar resides in Perry, GA. and owns www.southernfriedmetal.com where he designs custom metal furniture, jewelry, and art for clients.



**Sally Boardman,
Madison
Oct. 14**

When Sally was 7, she knitted her first doll blanket. In 7th grade, with lots of doll blankets and many pot holders and miles of Knitting Nancy tubing in her portfolio, she decided it was time for something more. So her mother bought her some lavender mohair, very fuzzy. She told her how many stitches to cast on for the neck and showed her how to increase. Sally made a top-down cardigan which she wore for many years. Then in 9th grade, "with a bag full of Irish fisherman yarn, smelling all sheepy, full of lanolin, in a nice natural creamy color," Sally followed her first written directions and won a ribbon in the county fair.

She is a proud member of the Peachtree Handspinners Guild and says she always learns a great deal from other members. "My inspiration comes from many sources – a color, a hunk a luscious fiber, a book of

patterns, a beautiful item displayed at the Guild Show-and-Tell, or even something in my life that I want to look different. I use any technique required to produce the desired result, and this may mean that I actually learn something new!"

Sally is married with 2 children and 6 grandchildren.



**Walter Hobbs, Valdosta
Oct. 15-16**

Originally from Cordele, Walter Hobbs, "The Potter" had planned to attend the University of Auburn for an art and Architecture degree, but while completing his core classes at Valdosta State University, the program was discontinued. Having taken a course in pottery and discovering an interest, he changed his major and went on to get a degree in Fine Arts from Valdosta State University. After graduation, he worked as a Graduate Assistant at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, TN. He later moved back to Valdosta, opened his first pottery studio and began teaching his craft. He also began a 30 year career of teaching art in the Lowndes County School System, followed by several years of teaching art at Valdosta State University. His award winning work has been displayed in many exhibits, galleries, and shops all over the state. "When one combines the educational training of an art instructor and the professional development of a ceramics career oriented person, you are presented with a potter that is

always evolving and researching new ways to express himself. Whether it be forms, glazes, firing processes, textures or uses, I have always pushed myself to take what I am doing today and use it as a basis for what it may become tomorrow. This approach allows my work to continue to be challenging, and thus rewarding, to myself and by collectors."



**Chris Wilson, Marietta
Oct. 16**

As Best in Show winner and Georgia National Fair Purchase Award recipient, 2015 marked a great year for Chris Wilson. He exhibited his work at shows throughout the Southeast and had several works pictured in Cindy Ann Coldiron's book *Wildlife Art Today*. Previously, while completing a Master of Fine Arts degree in sculpture at Georgia State University, Chris traced his ancestor William Bartram's (America's first artist/naturalist) eighteenth century journey through Georgia, Florida, and the Carolinas. After studying with several internationally-acclaimed artists and participating in a study-abroad program in Scotland, Chris became an associate professor of visual arts at Kennesaw State University, where he taught for 7 years. More recently, he has experienced a successful career as a full-time sculptor specializing in wildlife art. He is passionate about studying wildlife and he hopes his work will inspire others to admire and protect wildlife for generations