

AC of Fayetteville/Cumberland Co.

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interior design, pushing the boundaries of how fabrics can be used to define, divide, and energize spaces,” adds Jones. “Through experimentation and innovation, I aim to unlock the full potential of textiles as a medium for interior design, creating environments that are at once beautiful, functional, and deeply meaningful.”

Jones is passionate about crafting spaces that embody positive energy, pride, and serenity, fostering a balanced and relaxed lifestyle. Her fascination with interior design began at a young age, leading her to pursue a BFA in Interior Design and Architecture at Queens University of Charlotte in North Carolina. With a diverse background spanning residential interior design and knitwear design, she brings a unique perspective to her work. As a skilled project manager, she excels at finding innovative solutions to design challenges. Outside of her professional pursuits, Jones unwinds by painting with her daughter or tending to her garden, allowing her to recharge and spark new creativity.



Work by Kia Jones

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 910/323-1776 or visit (<https://www.theartscouncil.com/>).

The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County in Fayetteville, NC, Features Portraits For Hispanic Heritage Month

The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County in Fayetteville, NC, is excited to announce a new showcase, *Obras de la Vida: Capturing Culture Through Portraits*, on view through Oct. 14, 2024. This unique showcase will feature the works of Hispanic artists, offering a glimpse into their approach to realism and portraiture, as well as the rich and diverse artistic traditions of Hispanic heritage.

Featured artists include: Lady Natalia Perez Lozano, Carlos Tolentino, Adolfo Suarez, Stephany Placencio, and Vanessa Licea.

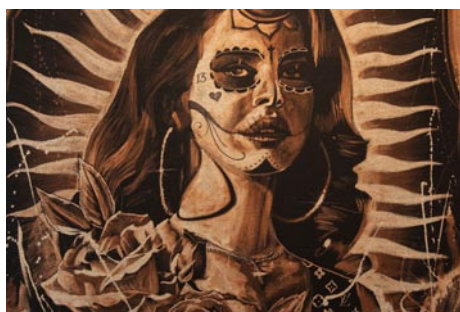
Lady Natalia Perez Lozano offered the following artist statement: “My art is deeply rooted in the power of emotions and the inherent magic of nature. I believe that emotions are the driving force behind humanity - they shape our experiences, our relationships, and our understanding of the world. Nature, with its profound beauty and complexity, serves as a constant reminder of the wonder that exists in our everyday lives. It is the perfect counterpart to the emotional landscape I seek to explore.”

“A central theme in my work is the duality and balance between life and death. I explore the idea that life and death are interconnected, each giving meaning to the other. Through my art, I delve into this understanding - that to truly live, we must embrace the inevitability of death. This balance is reflected in the contrasts within my work, where vibrant colors and blooming flowers coexist with more somber tones and fading forms, representing the cyclical nature of existence.”

“In my work, I strive to capture the essence of emotions and feelings through expressive looks, nuanced body language, vibrant flowers, and a rich palette of colors. My goal is not just to depict what is visible but to convey what is felt. Each piece is an invitation for the viewer to connect with their own emotions, to be moved, and ultimately, to interpret the work in a way that resonates with their personal experiences.”

“I paint beyond the surface, seeking to evoke a response that is as unique as each individual who engages with my art. Whether it’s a fleeting glance, a gesture, or the delicate petals of a flower, my work is a reflection of the world as I perceive it - one where emotions, nature, life, and death intertwine to create a language that transcends words.”

Carlos Tolentino offered the following artist statement: “In my artistic journey, I draw deeply from my upbringing in Mexico City, infusing my work with elements of my childhood and family. Portraits are my way of commemorating and honoring those who have shaped my life, capturing their essence



Work by Carlos Tolentino

with vibrant colors inspired by Mexican culture.”

“Painting with bleach has become a key part of my process, providing unique highlights and shadows that add emotional depth to my work. This technique, combined with vivid colors reflecting Mexican traditions, allows me to celebrate the beauty and complexity of my cultural heritage. Each portrait tells a story, offering viewers a glimpse into the profound connections and experiences that define my art.”

Adolfo Suarez offered the following artist statement: “Photography has been a passion of mine since I can remember, but it was in 2013, when I got my first professional camera, that I fully embraced this art form. My work is characterized by a vibrant exploration of color, with a focus on capturing people in their natural settings. Whether it’s urban environments, weddings, or quinceañeras, I find these moments bring my creativity to life and allow me to reflect my Hispanic-Mexican culture.”

“My culture plays a significant role in my art. The traditions and vibrant colors from various states in Mexico inspire my work, influencing how I see and capture the world. Over the years, my approach has evolved, transitioning from natural light photography to experimenting with flash strobes. This shift has opened new creative avenues, allowing me to refine my craft further.”

“Every photograph I take is a reflection of the beauty of my culture and upbringing. I strive to capture people with stunning images and depth that evoke emotion and happiness, inspiring others through the colors I use. My goal is to create images that resonate with viewers, bringing them joy and connection. As I continue to grow in my art, I dream of passing on this passion to the next generation of creatives, hoping that younger family members will pick up the craft and continue the journey.”

Stephany Placencio offered the following artist statement: “My name is Stephany Placencio.”

“I am a Dominican visual artist born in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. I currently reside in North Carolina, United

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States. I have a degree in architecture from the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo (UASD) in the Dominican Republic.”

“In 2013 I completed my intermediate level studies in plastic arts at the National School of Visual Arts (ENAV). I have carried out different workshops in the area of handmade paper making, Japanese ceramics and engraving at ENAV.”

“Since my beginnings in the world of the arts, I have participated in activities, courses, workshops, competitions and artistic exhibitions. I won first place at 11 years old in the “Paint your country as you dream” contest of the Secretary of State for the Environment and Natural Resources.”

“Currently, I have managed to transfer my knowledge of traditional art to digital media, using digital tools as a means of expression. After leaving the arts to focus on my architectural career, my artistic return began in 2021 during the difficult times of COVID-19 lockdowns.”

“Looking for a creative outlet, I rekindled the joy of painting again. What started as a personal escape to rediscover myself soon became a means to spread joy to many people around the world with the help of



Work by Lady Natalia Perez Lozano

social media, which was my means of making myself known to many people.”

Vanessa Licea offered the following artist statement: “As a proud Mexican American woman my art is deeply rooted in the vibrant and diverse cultural heritage that defines my identity. My art is inspired by themes both past and present and mixing them together in a unique blend.”

“It is my hope that my art resonates with others, sparking a deeper appreciation for the beauty and diversity of Hispanic heritage.”

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El Consejo de las Artes de Fayetteville/Condado de Cumberland en Carolina del Norte, Características Retratos Nacional de la Herencia Hispana

El Consejo de las Artes de Fayetteville/Condado de Cumberland en Carolina del Norte, se complace en anunciar una nueva exhibición, *Obras de la Vida: Capturando la Cultura a Través de Retratos*, Disponible hasta el 14 de octubre de 2024. Esta muestra única presentará las obras de artistas hispanos, ofreciendo una visión de su enfoque del realismo y el retrato, así como de las ricas y diversas tradiciones artísticas de la herencia hispana.

Artistas destacados: Lady Natalia Perez Lozano, Carlos Tolentino, Adolfo Suarez, Stephany Placencio, y Vanessa Licea.

Lady Natalia Perez Lozano

En Español: “Mi arte está profundamente arraigado en el poder de las emociones y la magia inherente de la naturaleza. Creo que las emociones son la fuerza impulsora detrás de la humanidad: dan forma a nuestras experiencias, nuestras relaciones y nuestra comprensión del mundo. La naturaleza, con su profunda belleza y complejidad, sirve como un recordatorio constante de la maravilla que existe en nuestra vida diario. Es la contraparte perfecta del paisaje emocional que busco explorar.”

“Un tema central en mi trabajo es la dualidad y el equilibrio entre la vida y la muerte. Exploro la idea de que la vida y la muerte están interconectadas, cada una dando sentido a la otra. A través de mi arte, profundizo en esta comprensión: que para vivir de verdad, debemos abrazar la inevitabilidad de la muerte. Este equilibrio se refleja en los contrastes dentro de mi trabajo, donde los colores vibrantes y las flores en flor coexisten con tonos más sombríos y formas desvanecidas, representando la naturaleza cíclica de la existencia.”

“En mi trabajo, me esfuerzo por capturar la esencia de las emociones y los sentimientos a través de miradas expresivas, lenguaje corporal matizado, flores vibrantes y una rica paleta de colores. Mi objetivo no es solo representar lo que es visible, sino transmitir lo que se siente. Cada pieza es una invitación para que el espectador se conecte con sus propias emociones, se conmueva y, en última instancia, interprete la obra de una manera que resuene con sus experiencias personales.”

“Pinto más allá de la superficie, buscando evocar una respuesta que sea tan única como cada individuo que se involucra con mi arte. Ya sea una mirada fugaz, un gesto o los delicados pétalos de una flor, mi trabajo es un reflejo del mundo tal como lo percibo, uno donde las emociones, la naturaleza, la vida y la muerte se entrelazan para crear un lenguaje que trasciende las palabras.”

Carlos Tolentino

En Español: “En mi viaje artístico, me baso profundamente en mi educación en la

Ciudad de México, infundiendo en mi trabajo elementos de mi infancia y mi familia. Los retratos son mi forma de conmemorar y honrar a quienes han moldeado mi vida, capturando su esencia con colores vibrantes inspirados en la cultura mexicana.”

“Pintar con lejíja se ha convertido en una parte clave de mi proceso, proporcionando luces y sombras únicas que añaden profundidad emocional a mi trabajo. Esta técnica, combinada con colores vivos que reflejan las tradiciones mexicanas, me permite celebrar la belleza y la complejidad de mi herencia cultural. Cada retrato cuenta una historia, ofreciendo a los espectadores una visión de las profundas conexiones y experiencias que definen mi arte.”

Adolfo Suarez

En Español: “La fotografía ha sido una de mis pasiones desde que tengo uso de razón, pero fue en 2013, cuando conseguí mi primera cámara profesional, cuando abracé por completo esta forma de arte. Mi trabajo se caracteriza por una vibrante exploración del color, con un enfoque en capturar a las personas en sus entornos naturales. Ya sea en entornos urbanos, bodas o quinceañeras, encuentro que estos momentos dan vida a mi creatividad y me permiten reflejar mi cultura hispano-mexicana.”

“Mi cultura juega un papel importante en mi arte. Las tradiciones y los colores vibrantes de varios estados de México inspiran mi trabajo, influyendo en la forma en que veo y capturo el mundo. A lo largo de los años, mi enfoque ha evolucionado, pasando de la fotografía con luz natural a la experimentación con luces estroboscópicas con flash. Este cambio ha abierto nuevas vías creativas, lo que me ha permitido perfeccionar aún más mi oficio.”

“Cada fotografía que tomo es un reflejo de la belleza de mi cultura y educación. Me esfuerzo por capturar a las personas con imágenes impresionantes y profundidad que evoquen emoción y felicidad, inspirando a otros a través de los colores que uso. Mi objetivo es crear imágenes que resuenen con los espectadores, brindándoles alegría y conexión. A medida que continúo creciendo en mi arte, sueño con transmitir esta pasión a la próxima generación de creativos, con la esperanza de que los miembros más jóvenes de la familia recojan el oficio y continúen el viaje.”

Stephany Placencio

En Español: “Mi nombre es Stephany Placencio.”

“Soy una artista visual dominicana nacida en Santo Domingo, República Dominicana. Actualmente resido en Carolina del Norte, Estados Unidos. Soy licenciada en arquitectura egresada de la Universidad

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