

# Arts Council of Fayetteville

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education in our schools and community. Studies show that students involved in art have better attendance, higher graduation rates, are more likely to continue their education, and are more likely to vote.”

The Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization based in Fayetteville, NC that connects our communities, embraces diversity, promotes individual creativity, advances economic development, and fosters lifelong learning

through the arts. As the primary steward of public and private funding for arts, cultural and history activities in the Cape Fear Region, the Arts Council and the agencies it supports are known for the core values of excellence, accountability, transparency, collaboration, and innovation.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 910/323-1776 or at ([theartscouncil.com](http://theartscouncil.com)).

## Art in Bloom Gallery in Wilmington, NC, Features Works by Clarence Mayo

Art in Bloom Gallery in Wilmington, NC, will present works by Clarence Mayo (a Durham Art Guild Exchange), on view from Apr. 26 through June 9, 2024. A reception will be held on Apr. 28, from 2-5pm.

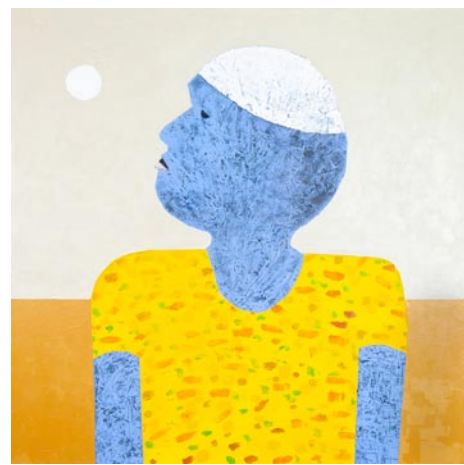
Art in Bloom Gallery is pleased to partner with the Durham Art Guild to present artist and painter, Clarence Mayo. He is an artist based in Durham, NC, who specializes in cold wax, oil, and acrylic mediums. His artistic creations are a result of his deep inspiration from a diverse range of tribal icons and symbols originating from different cultures across the globe. Mayo's artistic vision is notably shaped by the artistic and cultural intricacies of both Africa and Central America.

On view along with Clarence Mayo's exhibit will be a new show featuring the photographic work of Leland, NC, artist, (Joe) P. Wiegmann.

Along with the featured exhibits, Art in Bloom Gallery presents a plethora of fine art by over 30 local artists.

If you prefer to shop from home the Art in Bloom Gallery Website ([www.aibgallery.com](http://www.aibgallery.com)) is always open! Purchase art online and pick up at the door or take advantage of our free local delivery. Plus, we can also ship anywhere within the US. Art in Bloom also offers complimentary gift wrapping and gift cards.

The Durham Art Guild is a nonprofit member-driven visual arts organization established in 1948. The Guild's mission is to enrich and connect our communities by creating opportunities and providing leadership for current and future visual artists and art enthusiasts. The Guild programs over 40 exhibitions annually across multiple NC community partnership venues featuring



Work by Clarence Mayo

over 400 regional artists. In addition to the Creative Mentorship Program and the Artist in Residence Program, the Guild also produces over 20 arts related events each year including receptions, lectures, community building events and professional development workshops. For more information about the Durham Art Guild please visit ([www.durhamartguild.org](http://www.durhamartguild.org)).

Established in 2015, Art in Bloom Gallery is located in Wilmington at Mayfaire Town Center, presents an eclectic mix of original art, and represents over 30 artists. Visitors will find a mixture of traditional, contemporary, and avant garde paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, glass, mixed media, photography, fabric art, and more by local, regional, and national artists. The gallery is open every day of the week and has something for everyone.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 484/885-3037 (mobile) or visit (<https://aibgallery.com/>).

## Art in Bloom Gallery in Wilmington, NC, Offers Works by (Joe) P. Wiegmann

Art in Bloom Gallery in Wilmington, NC, will present *OBSERVATIONS: Photography* by (Joe) P. Wiegmann, on view from Apr. 26 through June 9, 2024. A reception will be held on Apr. 28, from 2-5pm.

Wiegmann states that, “As far back as I can remember, I have been engaged in various creative endeavors such as drawing and painting. Two years of Civil Engineering at the University of Maryland did not provide me with the means to express my creativity and so, I changed my major to Fine Art. After more than 43 years in the graphic, printing, and creative design field, I retired from my Creative Director and Department Head position to move to the Wilmington, NC area. The beauty and natural energy of the environment and artist community here has rekindled my creative energy.”

“While photography is my current creative medium, I have noticed that my art and graphic background plays heavily with my images. I begin by observing my surroundings before even taking my first photo. I look for lines, shapes, layers, colors, and textures. I consider taking photos from various angles and heights to best capture the image,” adds Wiegmann. “I mainly use a Fujifilm X-T3 camera and occasionally, my iPhone Pro 12 in RAW mode, to be able to employ various lighting effects. I bracket my shots and take full image as well as tightly cropped images, so I have plenty of information going into post-production.



Work by (Joe) P. Wiegmann

I select the image that best captures my observation and the emotion I felt when I saw the image. I want to communicate the same visual excitement to the viewer through a printed piece.”

On view along with this exhibit will be a very special exhibit by guest artist, Clarence Mayo from the Durham Art Guild, whose artistic creations are a result of his deep inspiration from a diverse range of tribal icons and symbols originating from different cultures across the globe. In addition, we feature continuously rotating art featuring 30+ of Art in Bloom Gallery's Artists! Gallery events are always free and open to the public.

Along with the featured exhibits, Art in Bloom Gallery presents a plethora of fine art by over 30 local artists.

If you prefer to shop from home the Art

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Work by (Joe) P. Wiegmann

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## Rice Museum in Georgetown, SC, Features Works by Vida Miller and M.P. “Squeaky” Swenson

The Rice Museum in Georgetown, SC, is presenting *Living with Water*, a new maritime art exhibition, featuring works by Vida Miller and M.P. “Squeaky” Swenson, on view in the Prevost Gallery, through May 30, 2024.

In a powerful homage to the delicate relationship between humanity and the ever-shifting tides, artists Vida Miller and M.P. “Squeaky” Swenson unveil their latest collaboration, *Living with Water*.

Drawing inspiration from the upcoming symposium, Apr. 18-19, 2024, on coastal resilience in South Carolina, *Living with Water* seeks to explore the multifaceted dimensions of existence along the state's coastline. Through a fusion of mediums and perspectives, Miller and Swenson offer a poignant reflection on the maritime heritage inherent in the region's relationship with water.



Work by M.P. “Squeaky” Swenson

The exhibition serves as a visual tribute to the symposium's theme, which endeavors to dissect the complexities of coastal living and equip communities with the knowledge needed to navigate the challenges of rising tides and changing landscapes. “It has been so much fun to work with dear friends Jim Fitch and Squeaky Swenson on this show,” remarked Vida Miller. “The theme of the show, *Living with Water*, is one that we enjoyed as it is the perfect description of what makes our area so special.”

Growing up in the mountains of South Carolina, Miller was taught to enjoy, appreciate, and respect nature. She still draws inspiration from frequent walks through the woods with her little Granny explaining plants, and nature and listening to the sounds of the woods. She has experimented with almost all mediums over the years. Some of her earlier work includes awarding winning abstracts using materials from nature as an art medium.

Miller is particularly fond of landscapes and the ever-changing atmosphere that makes each day a new venture and challenge. Six or seven years ago she discovered pastel painting and was able to begin her pastel journey with a nationally



Work by Vida Miller recognized pastel artist. She continues to enjoy using this purest form of pigment to express her feelings in the landscapes of the area.

Miller is the former owner of the Gray Man Gallery and has studied with numerous nationally renowned artists over her 40 years of painting. Her work has been purchased by private and corporate collections. She currently serves on the SC Arts Alliance Board and the SC Arts Foundation Board. Miller lives at Pawleys Island with her husband, Michael Carter, and enjoys mentoring the next generation of young artists in her family.

Swenson's work is inspired by the natural world. The painting starts by putting acrylic paint on board in a random fashion. The result is an accidental relationship of color, pattern, or shapes. It's improvisational painting, without referring to photos, sketches, or drawings. It is a dialogue with the paint - intuitive painting. As paint or texture is added, an image will emerge that suggests a memory. Symbolism is very important in her work. Water, the sun, and the moon all play an integral part in creating tactile surfaces that in turn creates an immediacy with the viewer. Her most recent work features landscapes of Pawleys Island.

Swenson is the publisher of the *Coastal Observer* and has been painting for over 30 years and has studied with nationally known artists from all over the U.S. Her work is in private and corporate collections here and in Europe. She is the winner of numerous awards. She lives in Pawleys Island with her husband, Charles, and her son, Trevor.

The Rice Museum, located on Front Street in Georgetown, has served the Lowcountry for over 50 years celebrating art, history, and culture.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Jim Fitch at 843/546-7423 or visit ([www.ricemuseum.org](http://www.ricemuseum.org)).

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