

Transylvania Community Arts Council

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textures are carefully and deliberately considered until the work comes together.”

For further information check our

NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828-884-2787 or visit (www.tcarts.org).

Rutherford County Visual Artists Guild Offers Celebration of the Arts in Spindale, NC - Sept. 18-21, 2014

The dates for the annual Celebration of the Arts (COTA), a judged art competition sponsored by the Rutherford County Visual Artists Guild (RCVAG) and supported in part by Grass Roots funding from the NC Arts Council, is announced for 2014. COTA is scheduled for Sept. 18-21, 2014, at The Foundation Performing Arts Center on the Spindale Campus of Isothermal Community College in Spindale, NC. Admission is free and the public is invited to view the art as well as vote for the People's Choice. The show is open 9am until 5pm, Thursday through Saturday and 1 to 4pm on Sunday.

Area artists who meet eligibility and other requirements as outlined in COTA guidelines may enter up to three pieces of either 2D or 3D artwork in various media including paintings, photography, clay, wood, textiles, glass, metal, and jewelry. In addition to the recognition of participating in this regional show, artists are eligible for cash prizes, honorary mentions, and ribbons in several categories. The deadline for all entries is Sept. 5, 2014.

Judging both 2D and 3D entries is Susan Carlisle Bell, Associate Professor at Gardner Webb University since 1985. Her areas of instruction are art survey, art education and painting. Carlisle Bell will select award winners in the categories of Best of Show as well as 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place in 2D and 3D.

The four day Celebration of the Arts includes the ever popular COTA Gift

Shop/Boutique open to the public during the each day of the event. The wide selection of unique art and fine craft created by RCVAG members is a favorite of attendees making early holiday purchases or finding special gifts.

Other features of the show include a Silent Auction with beautiful gift baskets filled with items donated by supporters of the arts and a look at the creativity of students who participated in the 2014 RCVAG Summer Art Camps. Also, for the first time this year, Student Members of the Rutherford County Visual Artists Guild age 15 and older have been invited to exhibit their art free of charge in a non-judged Student Members Exhibit and young persons of all ages may display their art in a special Junior Art Display.

The Rutherford County Visual Artists Guild is a non-profit (501 C-3) organization whose mission is to foster the visual arts and fine craft in Rutherford County. The Guild and the Visual Arts Center are operated totally by volunteers. Proceeds from the gift shop and silent auction as well as other activities Guild activities provide a variety of art opportunities for the community including funding scholarships for Rutherford County high school senior who will study art in college and for children age 8-12 for Summer Art Camps.

For further info check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Guild at 828/288-5009 or visit (www.rcvag.com).

Crimson Laurel Gallery in Bakersville, NC, Features Works by Rob Pullyen and Joe Singewald

Crimson Laurel Gallery in Bakersville, NC, will present *Current Work: Sculptural and functional ceramics by Rob Pullyen* and *Current Work: Current functional ceramics by Joe Singewald*, on view from Sept. 6 through Oct. 3, 2014. A reception for both exhibits will be held on Sept. 6, from 6-8pm.

Rob Pullyen offered the following about his work, “I am in love with the basic material of ceramics: wet clay. I have, for some wonderful reason, become comfortable with the language of clay so that working with it is exhilarating, frightening, mysterious...and totally satisfying.”



Work by Rob Pullyen

“While I have no academic background in clay, I have studied under some great teachers including: Kathy Triplett, George Bowes, Richard Notkin, Steven Heine-mann, Yeh-Wen Kuo, Richard Burkett and Anne Hirondele,” adds Pullyen.

“I am most creative when I'm working with restrictions. Some of my ceramic work for the last several years has had as its restriction - the ability of the pieces to hold water. Many of my forms are obvious in this, others less so. I think of these works as sculpture with a hidden ability to be functional. Other work I do is more obviously sculpture. I enjoy creating both.”

“The surfaces of my work are manipulated both before and after I fire them. I do a lot of “marking” in the wet stoneware clay and apply multiple layers of under-glazes, stains and oxides. The pieces are usually fired many times to build up layers of color and texture. I rarely use glazes. With each piece, I force myself to do something I've never done before: a form, a texture, or a color, for instance. This means each piece is an experiment of sorts. It also means I destroy a lot of evidence, but it keeps the anxiety level sufficiently high and the joy of success addictively sweet,” says Pullyen.

“Prior to my work in clay, I was involved with contemporary fiber for 30 years. Old man.”

Joe Singewald offers the following about his work, “I am a potter because I love making pots. The pots I construct are those pieces that please me. I am not potting with hopes of being rich and I am not making pots with aspirations of a ceramic revolution.”

“I am a potter because I love using pots,” adds Singewald. “My cupboards are filled with stacks of plates and cups, mugs and bowls. Shelves and tables throughout the house display jars, pitchers and platters. Some of this collection I have made, but most were unpacked from other potter's kilns. Every morning, after coffee has

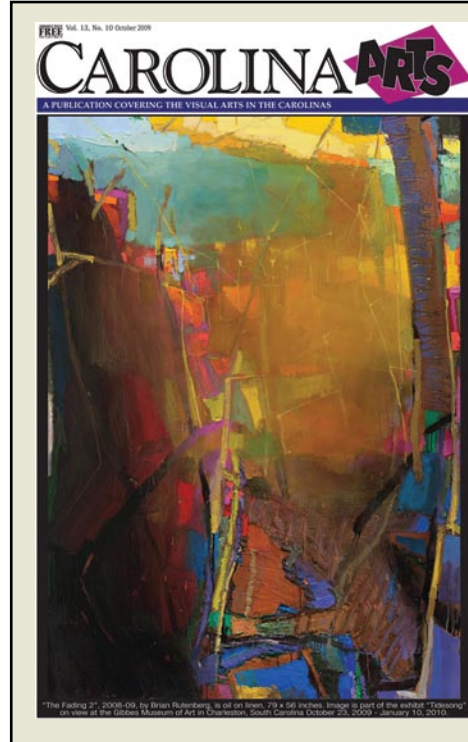
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brewed, I choose a mug that seems best for the day. While grabbing the handle, thoughts and memories of the maker take over. I love thinking of the maker each time I interact with their work and when I use my own pieces, my eyes follow soft curves while fingers trace lips and feet, reminding me why the pot in hand was pulled aside and brought into my personal life. All these pieces and all the art that I choose to be surrounded by enrich my life and while living alongside and interacting with, I am educated and inspired by each.”

“I am deeply satisfied when my ceramic interpretations create an aesthetic attraction upon entering individuals' private lives. I choose to hand build and wheel build utilitarian pottery with hopes my cups are the first to dirty once un-



Work by Joe Singewald

loaded from dishwashers and my vases are the first filled with spring flowers,” says Singewald.

For further information check our NC Commercial Gallery listings, call the gallery at 828/688-3599 or visit (www.crimsonlaurelgallery.com).

Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, Offers Annual Competition

The Arts Council of York County in Rock Hill, SC, is presenting the *25th Annual Juried Competition*, on view in the Dalton Gallery at the Center for the Arts, through Sept. 14, 2014.

Judging this year's competition is Mary Epp-Carter, who currently teaches printmaking, drawing, and portfolio preparation theory at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities. Previously, she served as an adjunct lecturer in the art departments at Anderson University and Clemson University. Epp-Carter relocated to South Carolina in 2006 from Boston, MA, where she taught at the DeCordova and Danforth Museums. She holds a BS in Visual Communication from Boston University, an MS in Counseling Psychology from Lesley University, a BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design, and an MFA in Printmaking from Clemson University.

In addition to teaching, Epp-Carter maintains a studio that serves as her workshop where she creates her own works of art. She has shown nationally and internationally, and her works are held



Work by Adrian Rhoads, 2013 Best of Show

in private and public collections, including the Boston Public Library, the DeCordova Museum (MA), Emory & Henry College (VA), the Permobil Foundation (Sweden), and Galerie d'Art Contemporain (France).

Epp-Carter selected 38 works by 26 artists out of 142 entries from 23 cities and 5 states to be displayed in the *25th Annual Juried Competition* exhibition.

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