

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS NEWSLETTER

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Edited by Katie Whipple, Creative Arts Coordinator

DECK THE HALLS CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

By: Katie Whipple

Wow! Deck the Hall's Christmas Extravaganza was an absolute hit! Thanks to Pat Black's awesome idea in our weekly CE meetings for us to host a Christmas Open House on one of the busiest retail weekends of the year... the first Saturday in December! Between Pat and Megan's planning of the event, the Creative Expressions Studio & Gallery pulled in new and old friends to visit the gallery for the special Holiday Season.

Our CE Artists had been hard at work creating new items for the holiday season including Christmas wreaths, trendy Season's Greeting plaques featuring different holiday greetings, and a wide variety of Christmas ornaments including candy canes and angels created out of dry okra pods.



From left to right: Gabe Elder, Steve Dotson, Shannon Carter, Latesha Sapp, Mike Hall, Walter Norman, Jeffrey Carter



Photo left: Delicious Yummies!



Above photo: Megan Bowen's Studio Art



Photo left: Pat Black's Pottery Room

A very popular and unique Christmas ornament that was designed by Megan Bowen were our "funky" handmade paper ornaments... some were psychedelic tie dye stars and circles while others were more traditional colors and shapes. The ornaments were created out of the handcrafted paper that is made in our papermaking groups led by Megan and Lawrence Brisco.

Last but not least, what's an event without food?! Thanks to all the community members and staff who made yummys for our gallery guests. Also thank you to Dee Weimer, Latrice Cooper, Mike Hall, Walter Norman, Kimberly Casper and Gabe Elder who made chocolate covered pretzels for the event!

CONTENTS

NATURAL LOCKERLY TREE	2
PRINT TRIP	2
GALLERY VISITS	2
STOP! IN THE NAME OF MOTOWN	3
HANDBELLS AT HOLIDAY MUSICAL	3
ARTIST SPOTLIGHT	4
UPCOMING EVENTS	4



NATURAL CHRISTMAS TREE AT LOCKERLY

By: Pat Black

For the second year in a row of our Creative Expressions Artists were commissioned to decorate a large Christmas tree at Lockerly Arboretum this past December. All the decorations were made by the artists from found natural materials.

Many different "natural" Christmas ornaments were created by our CE Artists under the direction of Pat Black. Corn shuck dolls, clay gingerbread men, gourd Santa Clauses, okra pod Santa Clauses, pine cone Santa Clauses, candy canes from okra pods, tassels from yarn, dried hydrangeas and cotton bales.

The artists that decorated the Lockerly tree were Georgina Babb, Brenda Stewart, Gabe Elder, Brad Williams, and Shannon Carter.

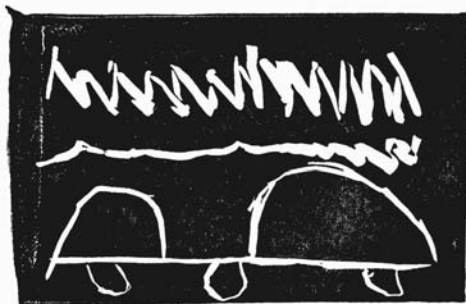
The natural Christmas Tree was on display at the Lockerly Arboretum Mansion during December as part of a their "Christmas at Lockerly" Dec. 6, 7, 12, & 13 featuring live local music, Santa & his Elves, and sparkling Christmas lights.

PRINT TRIP

By: Megan T. Bowen

In December, Walter, Brad, Gabe, Anthony, Rasheda, and myself went on a printmaking field trip to the GCSU's printmaking studio. We worked with master printmaker Bill Fisher on a relief print.

A relief print is a method of printmaking where you carve into a surface, such as wood or linoleum, creating different levels, carved and uncarved, on your plate. When you ink the plate in the area where you have carved will be white (or the color of your paper) and where you did not carve will be black (or the color of your ink).



Truck, Anthony Davis, Relief print ,3"x5"

The printmaking class carved their linoleum plates with a v-shaped gouge before their visit to the print lab and then tried new methods of printing. We experienced printing on a printing press and then by using the back of a wooden spoon. We also received a full tour of their brand new facilities. We saw a lithography press, silk screening facilities, and a darkroom. After our tour we had a chance to view some of the college student's prints. It was a very inspiring trip for our printmakers!



*Top Row: Shannon Carter, Brad Williams, Georgina Babb, Pat Black
Bottom Row: Megan T. Bowen, Gabe Elder, Brenda Stewart*

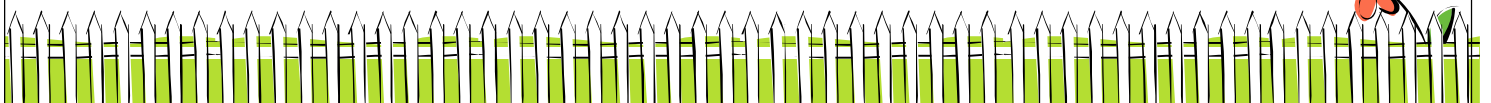
GALLERY VISITS

By: Megan T. Bowen

In January a group of artists, Pat Black, and myself headed downtown to visits two art galleries. We started our art journey at the Marlor House, which is currently exhibiting the work of the Smith brothers, three brothers who paint with acrylic and watercolor. Each brother has their own unique style and subject matter, but they also share many similarities in their painting techniques. We were blown away by the beautiful colors of these paintings and inspired to try out some of the painting techniques we saw! This is what Gabe had to say about the exhibit, "I liked the animal paintings the best. I would like to draw something like that at our studio!"

Our next stop was the GCSU Museum, which was featuring the artwork of Michael Murphy, GCSU's art and technology professor. Murphy has received a lot of attention for his recent portraits of President Barack Obama. He was featured on CNN and in the New York Times Magazine for his artwork. We really enjoyed looking at the different materials he used to create the portraits, such as bamboo and urethane, as well as the expressive colors and lines. Murphy's artwork motivated us to draw our own Obama portraits.

We can not wait for our next gallery visits!



STOP! IN THE NAME OF MOTOWN

By: Katie Whipple

On November 21st, 2008 Creative Expressions entertained Milledgeville's finest at "Stop! In the Name of Motown." Performing artists from the Life Enrichment Center and music therapy students from Georgia College & State University rehearsed for months to prepare for November's performance.

Some of the new songs performed are long time Motown favorites, "Ain't No Mountain High Enough", "Superstition", "Stand by Me", "Reach Out & Touch Somebody's Hand", "Baby Love", "ABC", "Do You Love Me", and "I Heard it Through the Grapevine".

A newly formed group, the Circular Motion Dancers, made its second debut during this performance. The dancers include Torie Hawkins, Lynn Phillips, Shawn Greene, Nicole Blizzard, and Kenny Davis. They choreographed and performed "Ribbon in the Sky" by Stevie Wonder. This group utilizes the use of wheelchairs to interpret the beautiful sounds of the music.

This is the second performance Creative Expressions has done in the "Motown Sound". These last two performances are leading up to this year's spring musical "Milledgeville's Got Talent". The upcoming musical has been written by O'Clair Alexander who was commissioned by Creative Expressions to compose a script for our performers. We don't want to give too much away but this performance will be of *cosmic proportion!* O'Clair facilitated our Drama Therapy workshop in May of 2008 where we "studied" acting and improv through the use of fun games and exercises!

Video clips of the performance will be available soon on our website via YouTube. If you are interested in purchasing a DVD copy of the performance for only \$10.00 email Katie Whipple at KWhipple@CreativeExpressionsStudio.org

BRAG BOX!

* Thank you First United Methodist Church of Milledgeville for inviting Creative Expressions to perform at your Family Night Ministry on January 28, 2009!

* You can now become a supporter of Creative Expressions! Donate online by visiting our website at www.CreativeExpressionsStudio.org

* A big thank you to all the ladies that brought yummy delights for our Christmas Extravaganza- Brenda Douglas, Sandra Holloman, MaryAnn Dellinger, Harriett Whipple, Kathleen Scarborough, Becky McCoy, Winnie McCoy, Pat Black, & Megan T. Bowen.

HANDBELLS AT HOLIDAY MUSICAL

By: Katie Whipple

December 18th, The Harmonettes Handbell Choir was invited to perform at Central State Hospital's annual Holiday Musical Celebration organized by music therapist & choir director Meredith Taylor. We were truly delighted to be a part of such a wonderful collaboration of musical talents!

The Harmonettes Handbell Choir was led under the direction of our music therapy intern, Rasheda Jones Root. This was Rasheda's last performance as a music therapy intern and she blew it out with a bang by leading us in "We Three Kings", "O Holy Night", and "Angels We Have Heard On High".



Harmonettes Handbell Choir:

Mark McCook, Latrice Cooper, Walter Norman, Kimberly Casper, Katie Whipple, Dee Weimer, Steve Dotson, Rasheda Root, Mamie Wells

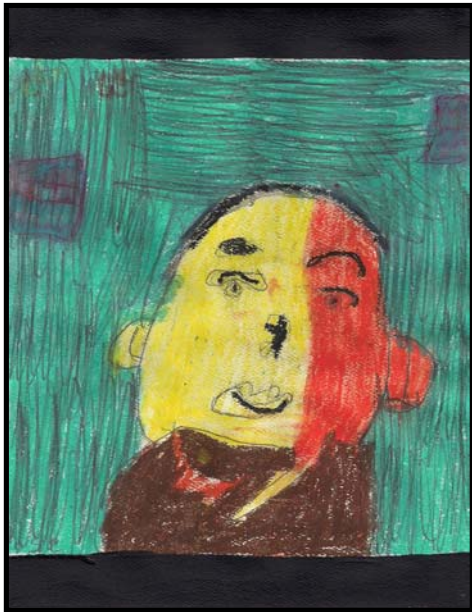




Ms. Shannon Carter is our spotlight artist of the quarter. She enjoys coming to the CE Studio and working on a variety of arts projects. She is a creative jewelry maker who can design eye glass holders, 3 strand necklaces, bracelets and earrings. She works with small seed beads, which is no easy task! Shannon also enjoys working in pottery with Pat Black and Studio Art with Megan T. Bowen. Beyond the visual arts Shannon is also a performing artist. She is a member of the signing group Music in Motion and performs with the "Tamborine Girls" in the Good Vibrations Drumming Ensemble.



Shannon Carter



*Portrait Of President Obama, Shannon Carter
Mixed Media , 9"x12"*

Special Upcoming Events & News

Creative Expressions Presents @ Family Night

January 28, 2009

First United Methodist Church

Valentine's Day Project

February 5, 2009, Green Acres

Creative Expressions Presents @ Women's Civic Club

March 19th

Music Performance at SER-AMTA

March 28th, 11:15-11:40

"Milledgeville's Got Talent", Musical Performance

May 1st, 2009

7:00, Fellowship Hall

First Baptist Church on Liberty St.



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