

MARY E D RYAN

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I have been a natural artist since I was old enough to pick up a paint brush. My passion is public art.

ART EXPERIENCE

2007-2016

OWNER/ARTIST, CHRYSALIS FARM STUDIO & GALLERY, LLC, SWANZEY, NH

Responsible for all online and bricks and mortar business management, finance, and marketing as well as the collective of over 50 artists and artisans who were represented along with myself at the gallery. Curated monthly shows with featured artists. Multiple exhibits of my work in group and solo shows. Taught a variety of art classes in the studio. Hosted numerous events and participated in community art projects. I currently have a private solo studio.

1978-Present: Mary E. D. Ryan Art

INDEPENDENT ARTIST/MURALIST/CONSULTANT

I have created numerous murals over the years in public palces, schools, and residences, and also hand painted stage sets and backdrops for theater. I've done rooms from floor to ceiling, interior and exterior murals, as well as large pieces mounted to walls, and ground murals. As a full time professional artist, I work with multiple mediums from studio work on canvas and wood to very large murals. I also offer mural design, planning, and consulting services, teaching residencies, workshops, and a variety of art commissions. My work is in juried art markets and shows in multiple counties around North Carolina.

Recent Mural Commissions and Public Art Project Work

2018-Present:

- Spring/Summer 2018: Redesign of the Reidsville Teen Center central hall and game room: Bold graphics, several small murals, and a galaxy game room. As a multi-cultural grant funded this project, I was assisted by artist Sunny Gravely Foushee to complete the Teen Center Project.
- Fall 2018: "Greetings From Reidsville" 43' x 16' vintage post card style public mural for the city of Reidsville. Commissioned and privately funded by the RDC. Gilmer Street.
- March 2019: Commission, Airlie Gardens in Wilmington, NC. Painted sculpture (Mermaid Wrapture) of my design, exhibited Summer/Fall 2019.
- April 2019: "Lift Me Upwards" Commissioned interactive angel wings mural and Plato quote on the front wall of the Rockingham County Library, Reidsville, NC.
- 2019-2020/2021: Art Consultant & Artist Recruiter and Adviser for the City of Reidsville for the making of the Black History Mural Project "The Block": Unveiling 10/23/21.
- Spring 2020: Tree Planter Stained Wood Art Panels: Commission from the City of Reidsville to paint in wood stain art a set of 22 art panels, 14 abstract, 14 nature themed. Installed on large metal tree planter boxes in downtown Reidsville, NC.
- Spring/Summer 2020: Four interior murals by commissioned and completed in one private residence, "Jukebox Joint," "A Group of Men," "Destination Unknown," and "Golf

- Day.” Located in Burlington, NC.
- Summer 2020: Artist Assistant in the painting of the “Say it Loud” Street art mural on East Lindsay Street in Greensboro, NC under the two project leaders Sunny Gravelly Foushee and Schala Harper, and along with other artists and community members.
 - August 2020: “Summer Blooms” large commissioned interior mural for the Willa Ashe Boutique retail store in Madison, NC. Octagon shaped mural design.
 - Summer/Fall 2020: Commissioned Exterior Garden Mural “Moon & Stars” as well as two interior retail rooms painted with crystal style wall murals floor to ceiling and wall to wall. Business location is “Eclectic by Nature” in Greensboro, NC.
 - Fall 2020: “Rainbow Room” Mural Design for a client near Raleigh, NC. Designed services for the client who painted it herself but required a mural designer.
 - Fall 2020: “Autumn in Asheville” commissioned mural, private residence, Stoneville, NC.
 - Fall 2020: “Lucky City Brewery” Ghost Sign Mural, commissioned by the Lucky City Brewery In Reidsville, NC for the outdoor covered patio, with aged effects.
 - January 2021: “Mushroom Magic” interior mural, private residence, Reidsville, NC.
 - Fall 2020-Spring 2021 “Paws to Reflect” Phase 1 & 2, Public Art Mural Series Project located at the Rockingham County Animal Shelter, multiple donors, funded in part by the NC Arts Council Artist Support Grant of 2020. Multiple small murals fill the shelter Lobby and Adoption Hall, with two large 14’x21’ murals in the bonding room and the entrance hall to the Cat Room. Community and shelter staff involvement in planning was significant and highly successful. The project has enjoyed much media coverage.
 - April 2021: Commissioned Window Mural, Tippy & Friends Pet Pantry, Eden NC.
 - Summer 2021: Commissioned by Locomotion Learning to complete 4 murals and a logo inside their new STEAM childcare location.
 - August 2021: Commissioned by the RCAS for “Paws to Reflect” Phase 3, Public Art Mural Series Project located at the Rockingham County Animal Shelter. Two offices with mini murals, two walls in the lobby with graphics work, and multiple walls in the adoption hall with multiple graphics, and a mini mural at the front door to the adoption hall.
 - June-November 2021: co-lead artist on a trio artist residency team with Sunny Gravelly and Schala Harper through TAB Arts and Creative Greensboro. Artist in Residence program. Teaching, leading, painting public art projects and art events in Kings Forest Park. Projects included painting park benches, tables, and a basketball court mural.
 - February 2-June 30, 2022: Lead Artist/Grant Recipient/Project Manager of the “Dream Team Visual Arts Program” at the Reidsville Teen Center. The artist team conducted the program via zoom with teens and adults for two months. On site projects included an exterior art installation of peace poles and painted picnic tables, and multiple interior murals , all done with the public participating and learning.
 - Feb-July 2022: Artist Residency Program with Morehead High School Students in both visual and digital arts. Class sessions occurred via zoom February through March, designing two large murals for MHS. The mural designs were then painted in May and July of 2022 on exterior school walls. The program was funded by two grants to the school from the City of Eden.
 - February-May 21, 2022: Storyteller Performance of interviews with Black Elders in Rockingham County. Served as the project developer, project manager, and talent scout. Performance on 5/21/22 with Angela Fowler as lead actress/songstress.
 - August and September 2022: Painted both a crosswalk and outdoor dining Ground Mural for the Town of Elon; the official launch into public art in their downtown.
 - September 2022: Commissioned by Locomotion Learning to complete a train and words

- mini murals inside their new STEAM infant childcare location. (second location)
- Jan-Dec 2022: “ARTchitecture” series of 30 paintings on canvas depicting public places in and around Rockingham County NC and GSO with custom designed murals applied to the walls, showcasing the wide possibilities of the application of public art murals. The 30 paintings are finished and exhibitions are being scheduled for 2023 and 2024. All art is available for sale.

I enjoy working with organizations, community, and facilities to develop public art, plan it, and create it. I also consult with minority groups to ensure they have a presence in public art. I have also provided art consulting services in several locations, as well as serving on committees planning public art projects. I am currently working with several organizations, business owners, and leaders for pending projects in public settings in 2023.

Upcoming Projects in 2023:

2023: Selected to be the artist in 2023 to work with the city and the community in creating public art quilt projects honoring the 150 year anniversary of the City of Reidsville.

Recent Art Exhibits in North Carolina:

2018 & 2019 – Carrack Modern Art Gallery -Two exhibits

2019 Rockingham County Arts Council – Featured Artist in the February 2019 Fundraiser Show.

2019 Rockingham County Arts Council – Art of Us Group Exhibit

2019: Durham Art Guild - Member Exhibits

2019: Our Voice Inc. of Asheville, NC – juried exhibit, sexual assault survivor art show.

2019-2020: Visual Art Exchange – Raleigh, NC – Artist Member.

2018 -2023: Red Dog Gallery – Winston-Salem, NC – Multiple juried exhibits.

2018-2023: Member Artist of “Art For Arts Sake Artist Group”, Winston-Salem, NC.

2018 -2023: Center for Visual Artists – Greensboro, NC – Multiple juried exhibits.

2018 -2020: Eclectic Visions Art Gallery: Collection Exhibit – Reidsville, NC

2020- Juried Artist Member of the Durham Night Market.*

2020 Juried Artist Member of the Durham Art Market.*

2023 – ARTchitecture Series Solo Show – contact the artist for locations and dates, as this show will be traveling to various locations throughout the year.

Recent Grant Awards:

Artist Support Grant Recipient 2020-2021: Paws to Reflect Murals Project (done in 2021)

Artist Support Grant Recipient 2021-2022: ARTchitecture series, 30 paintings (Jan-Dec 2022)

Artist Support Grant Recipient 2022-2023: UNFOLDING series, 30 paintings (in progress)

Grassroots Grant Recipient 2022: Rockingham County Arts Council; for the project management and lead artist of the Dream Team artists, teaching a workshop on peace pole painting. (spring)

Equity Grant Recipient 2022: NC Arts Council; for public art projects and programs to benefit the teens who attend the Reidsville Teen Center. Project Manager and Lead Artist of the “Dream Team Visual Arts Program”. Multiple murals and art installations completed onsite.

*2020-2022 MOST SHOWS, FESTIVALS, AND INDOOR ARTS EVENTS WERE CANCELED DUE TO COVID. I HAVE RESUMED WITH EVENTS AND HOLIDAY SHOWS AS OF FALL 2022 IN ROCKINGHAM, GUILFORD, AND FORSYTH COUNTIES.