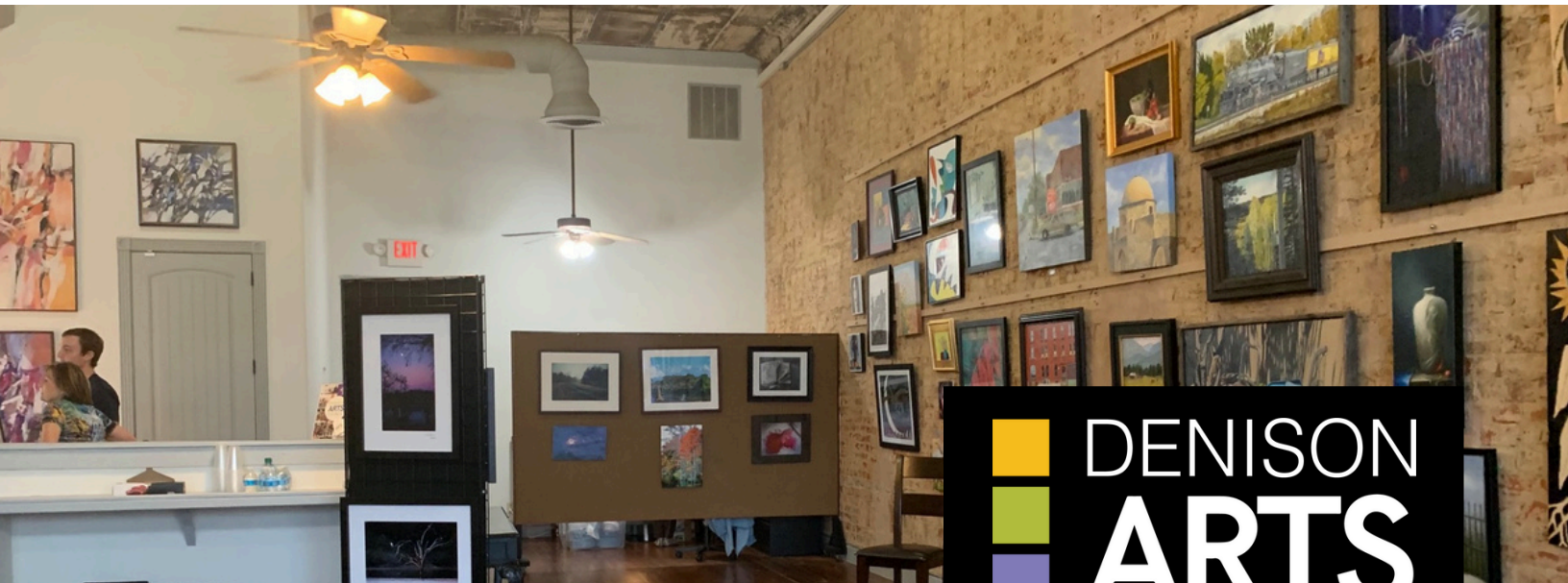


ART BEAT OF TEXOMA



Featured Artist: Steve O Black

Renowned for his multifaceted creativity and deep-rooted passion for the arts, Steve O. Black embodies the essence of a true artisan. Defined by LibreTexts Humanities as individuals possessing the talent and skill to conceptualize and craft creative works, Steve identifies strongly with this notion, particularly emphasizing the act of creation within his artistic journey. *Read more inside.*

Honoring Jazz Legend Clora Larea Bryant

Clora Larea Bryant (May 30, 1927 – August 25, 2019) was not just a renowned American jazz trumpeter; she was a trailblazer in the music world and a cherished member of the Denison community. *Read more inside*



Call For Dumpster Proposals!

The Denison Arts Council, in collaboration with the City of Denison, is excited to invite artists and teams to submit their ideas for painting dumpsters. It's all part of our mission to Activate the Alleys adding beauty and drawing attention to alternative business entrances on Main Street. Your canvas? A city-owned, family-friendly dumpster, prepped and ready for your artistry. Join this innovative public art movement!

Submit your proposal today!



DENISON ARTS COUNCIL

MAY 2024

VOL 1 ISSUE 1



Explore the vibrant arts scene in Denison with our latest newsletter, featuring exciting updates on upcoming events, artist showcases, and community initiatives!



Visit Our Website!

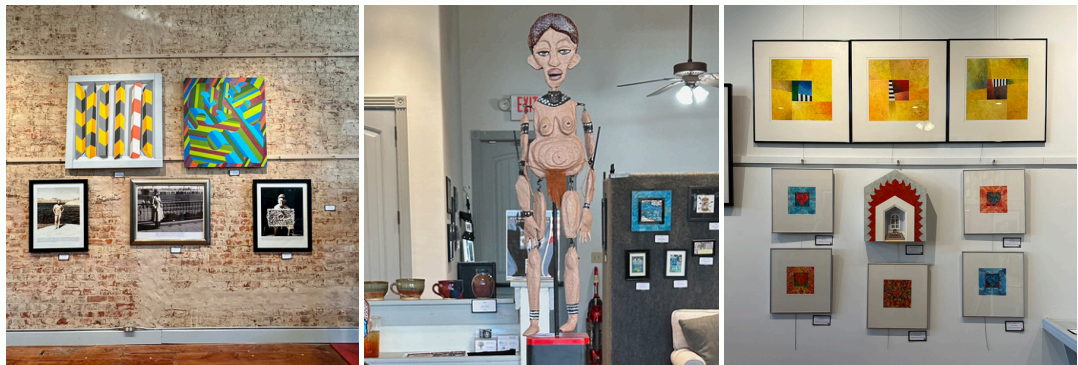


FEATURED ARTIST: STEVE O BLACK

Renowned for his multifaceted creativity and deep-rooted passion for the arts, Steve O. Black embodies the essence of a true artisan. Defined by LibreTexts Humanities as individuals possessing the talent and skill to conceptualize and craft creative works, Steve identifies strongly with this notion, particularly emphasizing the act of creation within his artistic journey.

With a diverse repertoire spanning various forms and styles, Steve has delved into realms of drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, ceramics, puppetry, collage, installation art, mail art, conceptual art, photography, and mixed media. His artistic endeavors traverse themes of fibers, figures, clothing, interiors, light and color interplay, storytelling, stamping, and explorations of the real and surreal.

From an early age, Steve O. Black exhibited a penchant for creation, vividly illustrated by childhood memories of fashioning intricate objects from found materials and boldly experimenting with unconventional mediums. Influenced by a childhood immersed in black-and-white television and vintage puppetry shows, his artistic sensibilities were further refined during formative years, including a pivotal encounter with fine art that left an indelible mark on his creative consciousness.



Academic pursuits initially led Steve to embark on studies in psychology at North Texas State University, but it was a transformative decision to transition to the realm of art that ignited his lifelong passion. Under the tutelage of esteemed mentors such as Henry Whiddon and Bob "Daddy-O" Wade, Steve O. Black honed his craft, embracing new perspectives on intentional artistry and the boundless possibilities of creative expression.

Following a prolific academic journey culminating in a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting from Arizona State University, he embarked on a distinguished career that seamlessly intertwined teaching, artistic exploration, and community engagement. From serving as an Artist in Residence with the Arizona Commission of the Arts to his tenure at Grayson College, he has continuously enriched the artistic landscape while nurturing budding talents in design, painting, drawing, and beyond.

Throughout his career, Steve has garnered recognition for his contributions to the art world, with exhibitions spanning prestigious galleries and international showcases, including the Biennale Internazionale Dell'Arte Contemporanea in Florence, Italy. Rooted in a deep-seated commitment to narrative and continuity, his body of work serves as a testament to his unwavering dedication to the craft and his enduring legacy within the artistic community.

As patrons engage with Steve O. Black's work, they are invited to embark on a journey through interconnected narratives, themes, and expressive mark-making—a testament to his boundless creativity and profound artistic vision.

Steve O. Black is more than an artist; he is a Maker—an individual whose creative spirit continues to inspire and resonate within the hearts and minds of all who encounter his work.



Honoring Jazz Legend Clora Larea Bryant

Clora Larea Bryant (May 30, 1927 – August 25, 2019) was not just a renowned American jazz trumpeter; she was a trailblazer in the music world and a cherished member of the Denison community. The youngest daughter of Charles and Eulila Bryant,

Clora grew up in a family that valued music, with her journey beginning in the local Baptist church choir and progressing to playing the trumpet in the Denison High School marching band. Her deep family roots in Denison are reflected with her parents resting in Magnolia Cemetery. Clora's distinguished career set her apart as the only female American jazz trumpeter to perform with legends like Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker. She was a proud member of the International Sweethearts of Rhythm, breaking gender barriers in jazz.

Her historical significance extended beyond the United States; in 1989, she became the first female jazz musician to tour the Soviet Union, a tour that included her sons Kevin and Derrin.

The Denison Arts Council celebrates Clora Bryant's legacy, not only for her groundbreaking achievements in jazz but also for her role as an educator and historian. She co-edited "Central Avenue Sounds: Jazz in Los Angeles," and was honored with the Mary Lou Williams - Women in Jazz Award from the Kennedy Center. Clora's life story, a testament to resilience and pioneering spirit, continues to inspire and influence the jazz world and the Denison community.



Cultural Districts Program

Did you know leaders in Denison were instrumental in the creation of the Texas Cultural Districts?

November 9, 2009 Denison was awarded Cultural District Recognition by the Texas Commission of the Arts. In March 2009 the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) had selected Denison for their inclusion in the 2009 Cultural District Designation Pilot Program! At that time the Commission awarded up to \$5000.00 to each Pilot Program site for the development of their Cultural Designation Application.

As authorized by H.B. 2208 of the 79th Legislature, the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) can designate cultural districts in cities across Texas. Cultural districts are special zones that harness the power of cultural resources to stimulate economic development and community vitality. These districts can become focal points for generating businesses, attracting tourists, stimulating cultural development and fostering civic pride.

Denison is proud of this legacy and continues to maintain a robust Cultural District! In the upcoming newsletters learn about our other awarded designations: Film Friendly and Music Friendly. Each year the annual report is sent to the State describing the prior year. Denison Arts Council is the sponsor for this program and strives to continue to collaborate with the many arts related entities in our thriving community to maintain this designation!

Music on Main

Join us each every Friday night from May 26th - July 28th for Music on Main at Forest Park, 300 W. Crawford for FREE live entertainment!

Music begins at 7:30 pm.

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------|--------------------|
| JUNE 7 | RED STERGALL | JULY 12 | MCBRIDE & THE AIDE |
| JUNE 14 | TEXAS HILL | JULY 19 | ALLY VENABLE |
| JUNE 21 | THE CLEVERLYS | JULY 26 | UNCLE LUCIUS |
| JUNE 28 | GEORGIA THUNDERBOLTS | | |

The Women's Show

Time to celebrate Women artists in the community!!! Please join Denison Arts Council and 517 Gallery for an exhibition during Women's Month. All mediums and sizes of work will be juried by a committee for this show.

Show Run: May 8, 2024- June 26, 2024

Reception: May 16, 2024, 5-7 PM



denisonarts@gmail.com
517 W Main St, Denison, TX 75020



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sparrow's Gallery Art Classes

Check out these classes offered by Sparrow's Gallery

Paint and Pour Class with Tamie Odom- May 17th @6pm

Watercolor Class- May 23rd @ 1pm

Acrylic Class- May 24th @5pm

Watercolor II Class- May 25th@1pm

North Texas Art Festival | Saturday June 8th 2024 @ 10AM

The Denison Arts Council proudly presents the second annual North Texas Arts Festival on Saturday, June 8, 2024, from 10 AM to 5 PM in historic Downtown Denison, TX. Experience juried artists showcasing their work alongside local wineries, with food vendors and live music for a family-friendly event open to all.

BECOME A MEMBER!

The Denison Arts Council is dedicated to developing and promoting cultural art programs such as festivals, public art, grants to arts-related organizations, and performing arts events. Your membership supports programs like art scholarships, exhibitions, and music events. By investing in cultural arts programs like these, we can help grow our local economy and attract more arts-related tourism to the area.

VOLUNTEER

Join our vibrant community at the Denison Arts Council! We're looking for passionate individuals to help us with exciting art projects and events. Your support is vital to our mission of promoting arts in the community.

denisonartscouncil.org

