

Black Mountain Center for the Arts

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business associates all in one place.

The Clay Studio is adjacent to BMCA in the renovated old City Garage and is accessible off the back parking lot. The Studio offers classes to beginning and intermediate students, is open seven days a week and has ample open studio time for students to perfect their work and to experiment with new techniques and glazes. A class is an excellent holiday gift for someone who wants to experiment with or rekindle their passion for clay. Gift certificates are available for this worthy endeavor.

An Independent Study option is available for experienced potters who desire studio time and a friendly community of companion artists. A handicapped-accessible wheel makes this opportunity to be a part of the arts available to the whole community, those with bad backs



Work by Geoff Bird, photo by Erin Centers

included.

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Center at 828/669-0930 or visit (www.BlackMountainArts.org).

Toe River Arts Council Offers Studio Tour in Mitchell and Yancey Counties, NC - Dec. 5 - 7, 2014

Take a rural Western North Carolina community in December, add the Toe River Studio Tour, and what would the holiday season be like? Ah, meandering drives along the Toe River, steaming in the morning light; crisp air and warm studios; shelves, table tops, walls filled with beautiful art for viewing and purchase; and an abundance of smiles and sweet treats from the artists who participate in the tour. A destination to ignite the holiday spirit and to see the best art in the country. This year's event, now in its 21st year, runs Friday through Sunday, Dec. 5 - 7, with over 100 artists (10 new to the tour) and nine galleries opening their doors to welcome the public.

For those who want to get a head start on their weekend plans, participant's work is on display at the Spruce Pine TRAC Gallery, 269 Oak Avenue, in Spruce Pine, NC, through Dec. 31. A meet-the-artist reception is held from 5 to 7pm on Dec. 5, the tour's first day, with a sampling of participant/gallery pieces geographically displayed — a perfect opportunity to meet the artists, view their work, and make plans and routes for the remainder of the weekend.



Work by Ronan Kyle Peterson

soap will be available. And, ornaments, ornaments, ornaments will be everywhere - for inside the home or out, to catch your eye from across the room.

But the touring experience is more than art and craft collecting. Mitchell and Yancey Counties are a destination for the original and exciting. Artists will demonstrate and explain how they do what they do. Some make collectible items only for that weekend and only from their studios. Friendships are formed, and there is always the thrill of discovering a new talent about to blossom through the snow.

The Tour Guide provides direction; bright red signs point the way from studio to studio. A map to the studios and local business is available online at (www.toeriverarts.org).

This year, the Burnsville TRAC Gallery, in Burnsville, NC, is showcasing some of the artists who participated in that first TRAC tour back in 1993. Of the 40 original artists, 18 are still a part of the TRAC Studio Tour. Many haven't missed a year.

The Studio Tour closes the gap between artists and the public. It's taken years to develop and grow to become known as the premier studio tour in the country. Visit studios, galleries; take the time to talk to the artists. Discover their history and evolution with their art. Share their vision and reflections of what art means to each of them. Come to the mountains the first weekend in December and experience what TRAC, with the help of a vibrant arts and local community, has built.

TRAC is a non-profit organization founded in 1976 to promote the arts in Mitchell and Yancey Counties.

For more information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Council at 828/682-7215 or visit (www.toeriverarts.org).



Work by Kat Turczyn

What began decades ago with five studios on one weekend has grown to a three-day event that happens twice a year. Folks come to spend a weekend in search of the "best of the best" in artistry, to leave with something distinctively handmade, and to perhaps make a connection with an artist or two.

The Toe River Arts Council offers the Toe River Holiday Studio Tour as a way to glimpse into the innovative and productive world of the working artist. For those who appreciate and collect art, this is a rare opportunity to meet our local artists in their own environment and observe the inside operations of the artist studio. The variety and quality of the art and craft put forward on the Tour is unparalleled. Artists in almost every concentration offer a broad selection and price range.

Clay in all forms, glass in all colors, hooked wall pieces, quilts, jewelry from metals, stones, gems, clays, woods, and polymers will all be offered. Wood boxes, bowls, furniture, lamps, photographs and paintings will also be on display, even



On the Ridge

oil on canvas

36 x 48 inches

WILLIAM JAMESON WORKSHOPS 2015

"Working Large Without Fear," Saluda, NC	January 22-24, 2015
"Problem Solving," Saluda, NC	February 19-21, 2015
"Aiken, SC Artist's Guild," Aiken, SC	April 18, 2015
"Spring on the Blue Ridge," Saluda, NC	May 14-16, 2015
"Tuscany, Italy"	September, 2015 TBA
"Fall on the Blue Ridge," Saluda, NC	October 19-23, 2015
"Workshop: For Your Painting Group!"	Dates you choose
I can conduct a workshop planned especially for your location! Please contact us for planning and organizing a workshop in your area for your art organization or guild.	

Each William Jameson Painting Workshop is designed to be an educational and entertaining experience. Along with exhilarating travel, students from beginner to advanced will receive one-on-one instruction in oil, watercolor or acrylic and pen and ink sketching.

Whether the travel is down the mountain or to the Bahamas or Italy, you will be with like-minded folks who share your love of art. There will be six hours of instruction each painting day at sites I have carefully selected for their architectural interest or appealing landscapes. Each day will include demonstrations, critiques and help with photography for use in painting your own work of art.

All workshops include a "welcome" party and some workshops include private museum tours or excursions to special venues that we have cultivated over the years.

Non-painter companions are always welcome! Our workshop trips take us to breathtaking places where there is something of interest for everyone. Of course, special pricing is available for these companions. Please see specific workshop information for additional descriptive information.

Detailed info is available at www.williamjameson.com or call 828.749.3101.

Don't forget about our website:

www.carolinaarts.com



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