

# City of North Charleston, SC

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and landscapes, which are characterized by detailed brushstrokes and vivid colors. Intrigued by the way the eye relates to the vibrancy that exists in the color spectrum, Regina has a tendency to use the full color spectrum in her paintings so the viewer's eyes can playfully enjoy bouncing from one color to the next. The variation in numerous brushstrokes gives her work a unique texture and pattern.

"In the process of painting, I find myself drawn to the relationship of colors, textures, patterns, and transitions," Lee explains. "My goal is for the viewer to become more attentive to the natural beauty around them and to notice the details of what the eye can see. Beauty is everywhere if we take time to observe the wonders of life."

Regina Lee was born in Fairbanks, AK. She and her family traveled often and though she relocated several times as a child, art was something constant in her life. She realized early-on that she loved art and took advantage of many opportunities to develop her talent.

Lee completed her Associates Degree in Fine Arts at Coastal Carolina Community College in Jacksonville, NC, in 2004. In 2007 she earned a bachelor's degree with distinction in art and emphasis in painting from the University of North Carolina in Asheville. Her work has been displayed in several solo and group exhibitions locally, as well as in Maryland and North Carolina. Lee is a member of the Charleston Artist Guild and creates out of her home studio in Charleston, SC.

Brenda Gilliam's acrylic paintings capture simple moments in life - a subtle expression on someone's face, something noticed while on a walk, a memory. Her work utilizes layers of color, texture, pattern, composition, and line, and stylistically reflects her background in graphic design and illustration.

In her exhibit, *Here and There*, Gilliam presents paintings that reflect the influence and inspiration drawn from the environ-



Work by Regina Lee

ments in St. Louis, MO, and Charleston, SC, both places the artist considers home. The darker, earthy colors with gray light in the Midwest contrast with the lighter sun colors that grace the Lowcountry. "In this exploration, I am discovering so many similarities in these two markedly different places," Gilliam explains. "It helps explain why I feel so grounded, here and there."

Brenda Gilliam has an extensive background in graphic design and illustration, with an appreciation for the aesthetics of mid-century to 70's. Never formally trained in art, she learns by doing and has been working as an artist since 1983. Her paintings have been displayed and won awards in a number of solo and group exhibitions throughout the Lowcountry, as well as in St. Louis, MO. Gilliam has also illustrated a number of children's books.

The Park Circle Gallery is located on Jenkins Avenue in North Charleston. Admission is free and free street parking is available on Jenkins Avenue in front of the gallery, as well as on the adjacent streets and in parking lots close by.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the gallery at 843/637-3565 or visit ([www.northcharleston.org](http://www.northcharleston.org)).

## Spring Fling Arts Weekend Celebration Takes Place in Old Town Bluffton, SC - Apr. 8-10, 2022

Begin the weekend celebration with the Spring Art Walk from 5-7pm on Friday, Apr. 8. Shops and galleries will be open late, refreshments will be served at many of the establishments and new artists and galleries will be introduced to our guests. Enjoy an evening of art as music wafts through the night air in the Historic District.

Continue the weekend celebration with the Bluffton Old Town Art in the Park event on Saturday, Apr. 9, from 11am - 4pm. Art displays will abound in Martin Park highlighting our local artistic talent as well as artists demonstrating their skills live. Visitors will enjoy watching artists at work around the Historic District on gallery lawns and porches and in Martin Park.

In addition, enjoy the rich culture and history of our town through the historical tours conducted at the Heyward House Museum and Welcome Center. Both walking tours and house tours will be offered.

Complete the weekend with the Brunch Around Town event on Sunday, Apr. 10. Stroll the old town area perusing the shops and galleries and savor brunch at one of the area restaurants. Truly a celebration of Art and Spring!



Lauren Terrett painting outdoors

For further information check our SC Commercial Gallery listings or visit ([shopoldtownbluffton.com](http://shopoldtownbluffton.com)).

## The Society of Bluffton Artists in Bluffton, SC, Features Works by Mary Ann Browning Ford

The Society of Bluffton Artists in Bluffton, SC, will present *Abstract to Actual*, featuring works by Mary Ann Browning Ford, from Apr. 4 - 30, 2022. A reception will be held on Apr. 9, from 5-7pm.

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The gallery will host a display of the accomplished Lowcountry artist's varied styles. It will feature abstract and still life oil paintings and prints by Browning Ford, who was the "Best in Show" winner in

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Bethany Fields, *Tangled*, Pastel on Paper, 10 x 8 inches

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Now offering demonstrations from the comfort of your home.

May 14, 2022 - Bethany Fields via Zoom

Taking a Poor Reference in a New Direction

SOBA's 2019 Judged Show.

"I am attracted to the quirky and unexpected I see around me," says Browning Ford, who teaches art classes at SOBA, as well as the TidePointe and Bayshore senior living facilities.

Browning Ford is a scenic artist and set designer for USC Beaufort's Center of the Arts, and is also a juried member of the National Association of Women Artists. She has lived in the Lowcountry for the past nine years after 26 years operating a successful mural business in California.



Work by Mary Ann Browning Ford

"I have an expression I try to live by, and one I often tell my art students: Don't just look at the world around you - really see it," says Browning Ford. "See and feel the fog as it starts to dissipate and swirl. See the deep dark, almost black and purple, in the woods as you drive by. See and appreciate the deformed and ugly. Only then will you appreciate the beauty



Work by Mary Ann Browning Ford

and uniqueness in our world. There is color in even the dullest things."

The Society of Bluffton Artists is the heart of the flourishing art hub in Old Town Bluffton's historic district at the corner of Church and Calhoun streets. As a non-profit art organization, SOBA offers regular art classes, featured artist shows, exhibitions, scholarships, outreach programs and more.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call SOBA at 843-757-6586 or visit ([www.sobagallery.com](http://www.sobagallery.com)).

## Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, Features Works by Kerrie Brown

The Art League of Hilton Head on Hilton Head Island, SC, will present *Gullah Doll House*, celebrating Gullah heritage through doll-making by Kerrie Brown, on view at Art League Academy, from Apr. 4 through June 3, 2022. An artist's reception, free and open to the public, will be held on Apr. 6, from 5-7pm.

Brown, a Hilton Head native and Gullah descendant, continues a family tradition and celebrates her heritage through making dolls. With snowflake eyes and triangle noses, these charming oversized dolls are both a commentary on current times and treasured keepsakes of the past. One doll sports a COVID mask, others wear military camouflage. Two have mermaid tails and button eyes.

"These dolls are an expression of Gullah culture that everyone can relate to," says Amy Wehrman, Art League Academy manager. "They are at once familiar and approachable - a wonderful use of fiber arts to evoke a time and place not easily understood by everyone."

Brown can trace her roots on Hilton Head Island since before the Civil War. For generations, the tradition of sewing has passed down through her family; she herself was taught the art of hand sewing by her great-grandmother, and the use of a



Work by Kerrie Brown

sewing machine by her mother when she was 12. "I always think about that time when I am making the dolls." Brown continues the tradition by hand making dolls in the Gullah style - dyed muslin, patterned cotton, yarn and thread.

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