Meet the Artist

MUNARTET 2016-2017

Kodiak Arts Council’s Teaching Artist Profiles

Distributed by the Kodiak Arts Council
Meet the Artist

Lena Amason-Berns
Visual, Cultural, and Woodworking Artist

Lena Snow Amason-Berns grew up in Port Lions in a commercial fishing family. Her masks and paintings reflect summers spent commercial salmon fishing, where she majored in studying the form lines, designs and textures of the way weather and waves alter work surfaces and fishing gear. She paid attention to the marine life and filled sketchbooks with drawings and ideas. These colors, stories, patterns and work ethics carried over into her college life, as she earned her BFA in painting from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Oddly, it was way up North in Fairbanks, that she first learned of the rich Ancient Alutiiq Cultural Heritage that was available to her, at that time, only in books. Inspired by watching her Yupik and Inupiaq friends make masks and dance in strong, powerful dance groups at the Festival of Native Arts, she began her journey as a Kodiak Alutiiq Contemporary Mask Maker. Her work includes mask- inspired wall sculptures, and masks for dance performances. The journey continues, as to this day, Lena enjoys drumming, singing, song writing, and making masks for the Nuniaq Alutiiq Dancers in Old Harbor. Lena has successfully completed several workshops at Old Harbor School involving layered acrylic painting techniques on wood, with a focus on researching ones own cultural heritage.

Learn More // Contact Lena

Contact Lena through the Kodiak Arts Council

Lena's work is held in the Alutiiq Museum, the Baranov Museum, Alaska Native Heritage Center, Anchorage Museum of History and Art, the Pratt Museum, and the University of Alaska Museum of the North. It is also included in the collections of the Chateau-Musee de Boulogne-sur-Mer, France.

Artistic Mediums

Storytelling through:

Painting Techniques on Wood

Multi-Media Mask Making
Meet the Artist

Ric Chamberlin
Musician, Cartoonist, Illustrator

Born in California, Ric has called Kodiak home since 1985, making a living as a working musician and guitar teacher. Although presently semi-retired, he continues to teach guitar during after-school hours and leads the house band “Under The Moose” at the Chart Room Lounge, in the Best Western Kodiak Inn. The name of his band derives from the fact that they quite literally sit beneath the mounted head of an enormous moose!

Ric completed the Kodiak Island Borough School District’s Teaching Artist Training in 2016 and became an Artist in Residence at East Elementary, teaching cartooning, drawing, and shading techniques. He has also taught art lessons at Peterson Elementary school, St. Mary’s Catholic school, and many summer workshops for the Kodiak Arts Council on subjects including anatomy, illustration technique, sequential art storytelling and beginning guitar. He is the creator of the comic strip “Beary Tails,” the humorous adventures of a family of Kodiak Brown bears, and has self-published four children’s books.

His personal philosophy is “Don’t take life too seriously, find the humor in everything and try to laugh as much as possible”.

Artistic Mediums

- Drawing
- Illustration Techniques
- Pencil
- Ink
- Charcoal
- Cartoon Character Design
- Storytelling Through Sequential art
- Anatomy
- Beginning Guitar
- Intermediate Guitar
- Advanced Guitar
- Saxophone
- Dynamic Composition and Lettering
- Writing in Poetry and Verse

Learn More // Contact Ric

Contact Ric at rickyroo302@gci.net

http://ricky-roo302.deviantart.com/

See him live every Friday and Saturday evening at the Kodiak Inn Chart Room Lounge starting at 7 p.m.
Meet the Artist

Bonnie Dillard
Visual Artist

Creating art is Bonnie’s passion. For 20 years she worked as the high school art teacher in Kodiak – immersing students in drawing, painting, printmaking, pottery and sculpture. Now retired, Bonnie’s focus is still art, but with more experimentation within her own work and as much outdoor time as possible.

The materials she is most comfortable working with are pencils, ink, watercolor, collage, mixed media and using marine debris or other "trash" to create sculptures.

Artistic Mediums

- Drawing
- Pencil
- Conte’
- Ink
- Painting
- Watercolor
- Acrylic
- Mixed Media
- Collage
- Printmaking
- Relief Prints
- Collography
- Sculpture
- Clay
- Paper Mache’
- Wire
- Marine Debris
- Art Analysis
- Art History

Learn More // Contact Bonnie

Contact Bonnie at bonniedillard01@gmail.com.
Meet the Artist

Jennifer Foster
Visual, Metalworking, Mixed Media Artist

Inspired by the outdoors and natural beauty, Jennifer's drawing began in grade school at East Elementary, remained with her in the Kodiak High School Art Club, and followed her to college. At Montana State she studied visual arts and explored drawing, lithography, ceramics and graphic arts before finding metalsmithing. It was there she learned the art of silver casting.

After receiving her degree, Jennifer went on to be a full time goldsmith, learning to set precious gems and create custom wedding sets. When she returned to Kodiak she set up a small studio and continues her craft to this day, exploring enameling on copper and drawing zentangle projects with her two kids.

Always inspired by the colors and textures of nature, there is constantly a craft in progress on the main table in her home. She loves to try different mediums from weaving to print making and paperfolding, but steers clear of the stage.

Learn More // Contact Jennifer

Contact Jennifer through the Kodiak Arts Council

See Jennifer’s work in person, and purchase it, at the Flourish Boutique, inside Ardinger’s Fine Furnishings.

Artistic Mediums

- Drawing
- Pen and Ink
- Pencil
- Colored Pencil
- Oil Pastel
- Watercolor
- Acrylic
- Printmaking
- Fabric Painting
- Zentangle
- Metalsmithing
- Photography
- Paper Mache
Meet the Artist

Brianna Gibbs
Visual, Digital, and Performing Artist

A lifelong lover of visual and performing arts, Brianna left Kodiak shortly after high school to pursue a degree at Western Washington University. It was there she found her niche in improv theater, spending two years with the Bellingham organization Improv Playworks.

Since returning to Kodiak in 2012, Brianna earned her teaching artist training through the Kodiak Island Borough School District and completed a successful artist in residency at North Star Elementary School in 2014. She is a former radio reporter for KMXT-FM and cofounder of Galley Tables Storytelling, where she is a frequent host of the organization’s monthly events. In her free time you can find Brianna practicing modern calligraphy and experimenting with art in all its many forms.

Artistic Mediums

- Improv
- Storytelling
- Radio Projects*
  (*In partnership with KMXT-FM)
- Calligraphy
- Hand-Lettering
- Storybook Art
- Card Making
- Block Printing
- Journalism
- Origami
- Hand-Stitching
- Cyanotype Printing
- Watercolor Paints

Learn More // Contact Brianna

Brianna manages the Arts in Education program for the Kodiak Arts Council.

Contact Brianna at brianna@kodiakartscouncil.org.

https://www.etsy.com/shop/kodiakcardcompany
Meet the Artist

Jacqueline Madsen
Mixed Media, Visual and Wood Carving Artist

Growing up in Kodiak, nature has always inspired Jacqueline. Natural materials make up the bulk of her artwork - everything from beach glass to driftwood. Jacqueline is a talented, self-taught wood carver, now working as a full time artist. She is experienced in creating traditional Alutiiq-inspired masks and figures, or dancing dolls. Her work also explores mixed media with shadow boxes and spirit houses. In these pieces, she combines the mediums of gouache watercolor, papers, encaustics and miniature woodcarvings into hand-built boxes.

Jacqueline has taught numerous art lessons and workshops for children, teenagers, and adults through the Kodiak Arts Council and other community organizations. She is very involved with the Alutiiq Museum, serving on the Exhibits Committee and the Alutiiq Artists and Cultural Committee. In 2016, Jacqueline received the Rasmuson Foundation’s Individual Artist Award, and has artwork work featured in galleries and museums around the state.

Learn More // Contact Jacqueline

Contact Jacqueline at jacquie@jacquelinemadsenart.com

JacquelineMadsenArt.com

See her work in person, and purchase it at the Alutiiq Museum.

Artistic Mediums

Shadow Paper Puppetry
Altered books
Mixed Media Art Journals
Wood Carving
Masks
Dolls
Homemade Art Tools
Natural Art Tools:
Drawing Charcoal
Inks
Drawing Sticks
Paint Brushes
Mineral Paints