

# Carolina Artist Studio Gallery

By Cindy Schersching – Carolina Artist Studio

Carolina Artist Studio Gallery, at the corner of Evans and 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Morehead City, is featuring three artists in May: Deborah Beard Phillips, Pamela Holliday and Lisa Nelson. The work includes paintings, photography, pottery and jewelry.

Deborah Beard Phillips, a North Carolina talent, uses oils and acrylics to capture likenesses in portraiture and landscape scenes – most of which are familiar to our coastal area. Enjoy her work throughout the month.

Growing up in Kinston, Debbie graduated from East Carolina University with a BSN. She went on to get an MSN from Duke University with a concentration in the Family Nurse Practitioner Program.

Her career eventually brought her to Morehead City. Most of her spare time is spent painting, attending art workshops or touring art museums. She has attended many workshops given by renowned American artist James Sulkowski. She has been awarded certification by John Howard Sanden, one of America's top ten portrait artists. She has also studied the art of portraiture with John De La Vega, a well known artist from Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Debbie prefers painting with oils but also enjoys acrylics and pastels. Her favorite technique for portrait painting is the discipline and structure of the classical academic method of old masters such as William A. Bouguereau, a 19th century French artist. For landscapes and still life she prefers the avant-garde method as used by John Singer Sargent.

Debbie has been juried into several art competitions and has been the recipient of two first place awards, one third place and an honorable mention.

Pam Holliday an award-winning artist will display pottery and photographic work throughout the month. Pam served as a public school principal and as director of exceptional children's programs before she retired in December 2004. She then taught writing part time at Carteret Community College, where she renewed her love of clay in a pottery course. She threw pots at Bridges Street Pottery in Morehead until 2008 when she and her husband built a studio at their home.

She says, "The natural beauty of the world, particularly the coastal regions, and the remnants of the human experience have inspired me from Maine to New Mexico, from Alaska to North Carolina and many poignant places in between. I love to share what I have seen through photographs and I try to capture the essence, the feel and uniqueness of Mother Nature in my mostly functional pottery."

Pam had her first pottery show in October 2005, as part of the four-woman group called BackCreek Artists and has had several group and solo shows

since. She has been juried into Carteret County Arts and Crafts Coalition and Carolina Artist Studio Gallery. She has won awards for her pottery at the Morehead City 150<sup>th</sup> celebration in 2007, Art from the Heart in 2008, 2010 and 2011, the Big Rock Art Show in 2008, and North Carolina Clay Art Show in 2009. In 2008, she received a Regional Artist Project grant from the Arts Council of North Carolina.

Her work can be found at Artworks in New Bern, Handscapes in Beaufort, DownCreek Gallery on Ocracoke, Roads End Gallery on Hatteras, Downeast Canvas and Gallery in Oriental, the Bellamy Mansion in Wilmington, Core Sound Waterfowl Museum on Harkers Island and in her home. Pam has been "adopted" by the Arts Council of Carteret County's Adopt an Artist Program, and she serves on the board of the Arts Council of Carteret County.

In addition to pottery and photography, Ms. Holliday enjoys kayaking with the Warrior Queens, reading for two book clubs, crabbing, growing oysters and traveling. She is an avid sailor and lives on the shores of Adams Creek with her husband, Bob; their black lab, Abigail Braveheart Warrior Queen; and Sammie, a cute little tabby who recently won over the entire household.

Also featured in May is Lisa Nelson. The one-of-kind crafted jewelry created by Lisa will capture your eye and your heart. Her themes reflect her love of sailing, collecting antiques, traveling and her love of nature. Her designs complement all wardrobes and are ideal for any occasion. Lisa Nelson graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts from UNCC in 1983. Her artistic endeavors consisted of writing, sewing, cross stitching, and dabbling in pottery while she was a social worker and yacht broker. She began designing jewelry in 2002 as therapy after surviving a serious illness with a long recovery period. Her hobby rapidly progressed into an all-consuming passion once she discovered her inner artist.

She progressed into making her own beads and pendants from polymer clay. In 2007, she began working with silver Precious Metal Clay (PMC) after taking several courses under the instruction of metal smith and jeweler Janet Harriman. When bronze metal clay was first introduced in 2008, Lisa and her mentor, Janet Harriman, were able to

achieve consistent success with the temperamental material. They forged a partnership and now co-teach their techniques at a classroom set up in Lisa's house. In May of 2010, Lisa studied PMC under Senior Instructor, Terry Kovalcik, and completed the requirements for certification as a qualified artisan working with precious metal clay.



Lisa's pendants, earrings, and beads feature well-defined textures, nautical themes, or natural elements, and are often inspired by vintage buttons, antique coins, or cultural symbols she has collected in her travels. Select gemstones & fresh-water pearls accentuate her handmade jewelry. Hand-applied patinas further enhance each piece.

Lisa also fuses dichroic glass into unusual pendants and earrings, using a wide array of colors and geometrical shapes to achieve works of wearable "mini modern art." She teaches fused glass classes in her studio, with instructor Carole Stroud of Raleigh.

Originals by Lisa Nelson are timeless classics seasoned with sophistication and subtle artistry. She accepts custom orders. Lisa Nelson can be reached at karinlisadesings@ec.rr.com or 725-0832.

On May 21 and 22, stroll the waterfront during the Crystal Coast Boat show in downtown Morehead City, and you will find more than just boats. Discover original works of fine art and master craftsmanship in a variety of media presented by the Arts Council of Carteret County. Make this a special day by including a visit to the Carolina Artist Studio Gallery as well. You'll find something special to mark the day.

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