

April J. Wright

Education

- 2020 Master of Fine Arts in Art Studio, focus in Ceramics and Fibers at University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
- 2006 Bachelor of Arts in Sculpture, focus in Ceramics at Union University, Jackson, TN

Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 Artist of Month-May, Thought Art Magazine, <https://thoughtartmagazine.com/artist-of-the-month-1>
Gentle Cycle, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
- 2019 *Material Traces*, The Peacock Gallery, Middle Georgia State University, Cochran, GA
Ephemeral Dwellings, The Parachute Factory, Lexington, KY
- 2018 *Broken Walls*, The Cabinet Gallery, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
- 2008 *Transformations*, Gallery 56, Memphis, TN
- 2006 *Hidden*, Senior Show, Union University, Jackson, TN

Group Exhibitions

- 2021 Lux Center for the Arts, *Common Threads*, curated by: Sophia Ruppert
- 2020 Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Art Benefit, Omaha, Nebraska
Center for the Visual Arts, Caroline S. Mark Gallery, *Roots: Up Rooted*, juried by: Kate Mothes, Wausau, WI.
Woman Made Gallery, *23rd Annual International Open*, juried by: Juana Williams, Chicago, Illinois
Patricia Sweetow Gallery Exhibition, San Francisco, California
B20:Wiregrass Museum of Art Biennial Exhibition, Dothan, Alabama
Woman Made Gallery, *Home, A Virtual Exhibition*, juried by Jennifer Weigel, Chicago, Illinois
Lexington Art League, *Herself Exhibition*, juried by Miriam Kienle
Home as Situation, Bolivar Gallery, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. Curated by Becky Alley and Rae Goodwin
Boom, 48hr Student Neukolln Artist Festival, Berlin, Germany <https://48-stunden-neukoelln.de/en/page/festivaltheme-2020-boom>
Stay at Home Gallery, <https://www.instagram.com/stayhomegallery/> Curated by Liezel Strauss
Changing a Point of View, Sculpture and Installation Exhibit, all SHE makes, <https://www.allshemakes.org/online-exhibits> Curated by Christina Massey of WOArt Blog
Locker 666 Gallery, Alternative exhibition space for visual/literary/sound arts
Managed by @jenn_thefleshfiend. <https://www.instagram.com/locker666gallery/>
The Show Must Go On, Mortar and Pestle, Lexington, KY. Curated by Jessica Simpson and Sammy Simpson. <https://www.mortarandpestleart.com/exhibitions>
Social Distancing Gallery, hosted and curated by: Benjamin Cook <https://www.instagram.com/socialdistancegallery/>
Art Instructors of the LASC Exhibition Lexington, KY
- 2019 *Intersection*, Bolivar Gallery, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
Prohibition, Lexington Art League, Lexington, Kentucky
A Communal Exhibition, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, KY

- Fiber Arts Group Exhibition, Collaborative Series, Lexington Art League, Lexington, KY*
- 2018 *Tightly Bound, M S Rezny Studio/Gallery, Lexington, Kentucky*
- 2017 *TAD Dance class, University of Kentucky, Fine Arts Building. Invited to create rope and a soft sculpture for dancers to interact with during dance performances*
- 2016 *An Art form of Worship, Crosstown Arts, Memphis, TN*
- 2007 *Something about coming and going, North Park University, Chicago, IL*
- 2006 *Annual Student show, Union University, Jackson, TN*
- Artists of the 21st Century Exhibition, The Dickson Gallery of Fine Art, Jackson, TN*
- 2003-2005 *Union University Annual Student Show, Jackson, TN*
- 2003 *Union University Bronze Sculpture Show, Jackson, TN*

Teaching Experience

- 2019-2020 Instructor of Record, Two-Dimensional Design, University of Kentucky
- 2019 Instructor of Record, Three-Dimensional Design, University of Kentucky
- 2018 Instructor of Record, Three-Dimensional Design, University of Kentucky
Teaching Assistant, Three-Dimensional Design, University of Kentucky
- 2017 Teaching Assistant, Two-Dimensional Design, University of Kentucky

Professional Experience

- 2020 **Instructor**, Mendocino Art Center, created curriculum and led an online bookbinding class.

Workshop Assistant in Ceramics for Hunter Stamps at University of Kentucky, Assisting Hunter in his coil building workshop with Living Learning Program (LLP) with UK students.

Workshop Assistant in Ceramics for Angelica Pozo at University of Kentucky, prepped slabs, cleaned ceramics studio, and helped her with any of her needs during the duration of her workshop.

- 2017-2020 **Studio Technician**, University of Kentucky, Ceramics. Mix glazes and slips, organize chemicals by making labels, restocking materials, changing out relays, elements, and thermocouples in electric kilns, taking inventory, grinding kiln shelves, load and fire kilns (atmospheric and electric), cleaning kilns, clean sink traps, mix various clay bodies, and maintain studio cleanliness.

- 2019 **Instructor Assistant** in Fibers for Gabrielle Duggan, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN. Assisted Gabrielle in her workshop "Spatial Knitting".

Instructor, See Art Day, University of Kentucky, Wheel Throwing studio workshop for local and regional high school students.

Workshop teacher, University of Kentucky, Demonstrated various slip and under glaze and coil building techniques. Worked with students one on one to help problem solve building historical vessels.

Instructor, Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington, KY. Led summer classes for children and young teens in the ceramics, paper, and fibers areas. Planned lessons,

projects, and taught basic weaving, paper casting hand-building, wheel-throwing, and glaze application techniques.

Studio Summer Assistant, Living Arts and Science Center, Lexington, KY. Organized and ran a ceramic studio. This included reclaiming clay, restocking and organizing supplies, scheduling kiln firings, and firing student work. Also, assisted instructors during their classes and helped around with other needs around the museum including assisting with morning and afternoon care for children.

Workshop Assistant for Kristina Bogdanov in Ceramics at the Society of Photographic Education Conference, prepped slabs, cleaned ceramic studio, and assisted students working with Kristina with photolithography lithography transfers on clay.

- 2018 **Research Assistant** for Rae Goodwin, Assisted her with making soft sculptures, deconstructing and repurposing found furniture, building wooden panels, organizing her studio, and helping her assemble and complete finishing touches on her fiber works.

Studio Assistant for Becky Alley, Assisted her with packaging, moving, installing, and de-installing work for two shows. Assisted her with making her sculptures and wooden panels.

Instructor, University of Kentucky, See Art Day: 3D-Paper installation, Studio Workshop for local and regional high school students.

Instructor, Kentucky Mudworks, Lexington, KY. Led summer classes for children and young teens. Planned lessons, projects, and taught hand-building, wheel-throwing, and glaze application techniques.

- 2017 **Studio Technician**, University of Kentucky, Fibers. Organize textile materials and maintain studio cleanliness (fall semester).

Instructor, University of Kentucky, See Art Day: 3D Studio Cardboard Workshop for local and regional high school students.

Professional Service

- 2018 **Gallery Intern**, Bolivar Art Gallery, University of Kentucky. Assisted in curating shows, helped install and de-install work for a class.

Search Committee Member, University of Kentucky School of Art and Visual Studies, for a tenure track position in Drawing and Illustration at the University of Kentucky.

Juror, Barr Art Competition at the University of Kentucky. Judged and selected winners to receive awards for this exhibition.

- 2017-
2018 **Club President**, University of Kentucky Ceramics Club SLIP, Organized and ran administrative task such as hosted meetings, T-shirt and poster designs, community events, pottery sales. Fundraised and met goal to send students NCECA conference.

Grants/Awards

- 2020- 701 CCA Shelter in Place Artist-in Residency grant fund.
 2017- Teacher Assistant Full Tuition Scholarship, School of Art and Visual Studies,
 2020 University of Kentucky
- 2019 University of Kentucky travel grant. Attended two workshops with Natalie Stopka and Bryant Holsenbeck at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts
- 2018 Friends of Arrowmont Scholarship, Arrowmont, Gatlinburg, TN. Partial scholarship to attend summer workshop with Elizabeth Alexander
- 2017 Friends of Arrowmont Scholarship Arrowmont, Gatlinburg, TN. Partial scholarship to attend summer workshop with Kate Maury
- 2015 Dr. Judith Temple Scholarship Arrowmont, Gatlinburg, TN. Fully funded workshop with Janis Mars Wunderlich
- Friends of Arrowmont Scholarship Arrowmont, Gatlinburg, TN. Partial scholarship to attend a fall workshop with Jo Stealey
- 2006 Bezalel Art Scholarship Winner, Top art student, Union University, Jackson, TN
- 2004 2nd place Student Art Scholarship winner, Union University, Jackson, TN

Residencies

- 2020 **Artist in Residence**, 701 Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC.
 2020 **Fiber Artist in Residence**, Mendocino Art Center, Mendocino, CA.

Lectures/Workshops

- 2019 **Visiting Artist Lecture**, Fine Art Graduate Symposium, Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, TN
- Visiting Artist Lecture**, Middle Georgia State University at The Peacock Gallery
- Artist Lecture**, University of Kentucky, with Lecture Brandon Smith for Drawing, AS 103
- 2018 **Instructor Assistant Presentation**, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN
- Artist Talk**, University of Kentucky with Lecture Becky Alley for Professional Practices in Art, ART 301
- 2017 **Artist Talk**, University of Kentucky, with Associate Professor Ruth Adams for Professional Practices in Art, ART 301

Publications/Interviews

- 2021 **Artwork Winter 2021** for January, Change Seven Magazine
<https://changesevenmag.com>
- 2020 **Artist of the Month** for May, Thought Art Magazine, posted by: editor and founder Ginger Cochran. <https://thoughtartmagazine.com/artist-of-the-month-1>

Demetri Broxton, Interview, “In Conversation: Lavaughan Jenkins, Amalia Galdona Broche and April Wright”, September 2020.

Relevant Skills

Ceramics Studio	glaze, slip, clay mixing, plaster mold making, slip casting, slab, coil, and hollow core building, wheel throwing, electrical kiln maintenance
Firing	gas, wood, electric, soda, and pit firing
Kiln Building	helped cut and lay bricks for the soda kiln at the University of Kentucky in 2018
Metal Shop	plasma cutting, mig welding, stick welding
Wood Shop	table saw, band saw, compound miter saw, reciprocating saw, surface planer, radial arm saw, jointer, drill press, panel saw, sanders
Power/hand Tools	pin nailer, jig saw, hack saw, drill, wood carving
Fibers	knitting machine, floor loom weaving, frame loom weaving, knitting, wire armature building, crochet, embroidery, hand sewing, sewing machine
Paper	hollander beater, papermaking, paper casting, paper sculpture building and bookmaking, collage, and mono printing.