

April J. Wright

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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

- 2023 Bells Gallery, *G.R.I.T.S. Girls raised in the South*, Dothan, AL.
 McColl Center's Benefit Art Auction, Charlotte, NC.
- 2022 The Mint Museum, *Coined in the South*, Charlotte, NC.
 The Arrowmont Gallery, Convergence Conference, *Another Time Once More*, Knoxville, TN.
 Museu Textil, *Intellectual Beauty: Textile Art and Mixed Media*, Curated by: Rodrigo Franzao, an international virtual exhibition, <https://www.museutextil.com>
- 2021 Stephanie Roper Gallery, *Pleasant Terminal (Faculty show)*, Frostburg, MD.
 Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Art Benefit, Omaha, Nebraska
 Sculpture Alliance, Up-cycling Detritus, New York, NY. Curated by: Vernita Nemes
 ContraCommon Gallery, *Soft*, Bee Cave, Texas
 Lux Center for the Arts, *Common Threads*, Lincoln, NE. 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
 Bolivar Gallery, *Home as Situation*, 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

- 2023-present Lecture of Beginning and Advanced Sculpture, and Art Appreciation, Frostburg State University
- 2021-2023 Lecture of Foundations, Two-Dimensional Design, Three-Dimensional Design, Beginning Drawing, Art Appreciation, and Visual Imagery, Frostburg State University
- 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

- 2023-present Gallery Director, Stephanie Ann Roper Gallery, Frostburg State University, Curated shows while organizing and installing student, faculty, and visiting artist work
- 2021 Finalist, Touchstone Fellowship for the Arts, Touchstone Gallery in Washington D.C.
 Curator, Lewis J. Ort Library, Frostburg State University, Organized a Student show for Cardboard Portraits to be on display for the student body and faculty at FSU.
- 2020 Instructor, Mendocino Art Center, created curriculum and led two online bookbinding class and a fiber sculpture 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 Mud works, 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

- 2023- Committees Served Scholarship, Open House CTE Liaison Program Representative Senior Show Committee for graduating seniors for Spring 2023
Frostburg First Arts Walk-set up tables and tents for students to sell their art work.
- 2022- Curated and organized Student work from my Visual Imagery class to be exhibited

- in the Lewis J. Ort Library at Frostburg State University.
- 2021- Communications/social media, CTE Liaison Program
Present-Representative
- 2021 FSU representative for the Professional Advisory Committee for Washington County, Maryland Public Schools, Arts, Media, and Communications group for a zoom meeting to discuss preparing students for a career in the arts.
- 2021- Participation in Focus reviews, as scheduled for Fall 2021 and 2022
2022
- 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- Club President, University of Kentucky Ceramics Club SLIP, Organized and ran
2018 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

- 2022- Finalist for Touchstone Gallery Fellowship for the Arts, Washington, D.C.
- 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

- 2023- Tend Artist in Resident, Walkaway House, North Adams, MA.
- 2020- Fiber Artist in Residence, Mendocino Art Center, Mendocino, CA.
2021
- 2020- Artist in Residence, 701 Center for Contemporary Art, Columbia, SC.

Lectures/Workshops

- 2023 Visiting Artist talk and critique members work, of a virtual studio visit with I like your work members
- 2021 Visiting Artist Lecture, North Park University, Chicago, IL. with Assistant Professor Nenna Okore for Advanced Sculpture
- 2019 Visiting Artist Lecture, Fine Art Graduate Symposium, Lincoln Memorial University, Harrogate, TN
- Visiting Artist Lecture, Middle Georgia State University at The Peacock Gallery, Macon, GA
- Artist Lecture, University of Kentucky, with Lecture Brandon Smith for Drawing, AS 103, Lexington, KY.
- 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

- 2023 Bells Gallery, G.R.I.T.S. *Girls raised in the south*, Catalogue publication, Dothan, AL.
I like your work podcast, Studio visit and highlighted artist Feb 2023
- 2021 Daria M. Velazquez, Interview, North Park University, November 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 and stick welding, wire armature building, bronze casting and some foundry experience.
Wood Shop	assemblage and basic joinery, table saw, band saw, compound miter saw, reciprocating saw, surface planer, radial arm saw, jointer, drill press, panel saw, sanders, router, basic maintenance for all woodshop power tools.
Power/hand Tools	pin nailer, jig saw, reciprocating saw, drill, wood burning tool, electric chisel,
Fibers	knitting machine, floor loom and frame loom weaving, knitting, binding and wrapping techniques, crochet, embroidery, hand sewing, sewing machine, maintenance on sewing machines.

Paper

hollander beater, papermaking, paper casting, paper sculpture building and bookmaking, collage, and mono printing.