

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Betty Segrest, **MCCRANEY COTTLE ARTS COUNCIL**, 334-329-9318 | E-mail: BettySegrest@gmail.com

Mark Harris, **DIXIE ART COLONY FOUNDATION**, 334-328-0730 | E-mail: M.Harris@DixieArtColony.org

Shirley Esco, **ELMORE COUNTY ART GUILD**, 334-399-5115 | E-mail: ShirleyEsco1945@gmail.com

April 30, 2018

Tallassee NOW Art Exhibitions to be Held in June 2018

McCraney Cottle Arts Council / Dixie Art Colony Foundation / Elmore County Art Guild

Tallassee, Alabama—Seven exciting art exhibitions will take place during this year's annual **Tallassee NOW** event to **be held on June 8 and 9, 2018 in downtown Tallassee, Alabama.** The exhibition **Dixie Art Colony: A Look at its Lasting Legacy** will take place in the lobby of **304 Barnett Boulevard** branch of Trustmark located just west of the Fitzpatrick Bridge. This year's exhibition will include lots of new discoveries, including some works of art that have never been publicly shown. The **Tallassee Community: Art Show** will take place in the **Trustmark Annex** building located next door to the 304 Barnett Boulevard branch of Trustmark.

The other exhibitions, **ECAG Tallassee NOW & Then, Dixie Doodles: The Lighter Side of the Dixie Art Colony, The Artwork of Dr. Ronald McDowell, The Artwork of Walt Spratlan, ECAG Tallassee City Schools "Sparking the Arts" Exhibition** and a **PREVIEW of Dixie Art Colony: A New Generation** will be held in the **Historic Officers Quarters built in 1864** by the Confederate States of America for Confederate Officers. This building is located at **301 King Street**, next door to the Trustmark Annex building. This was the former location of the Segrest Law Firm.

All exhibitions will open on **Friday, June 8 at 6:00 pm** with an **opening reception** in the bank lobby of the downtown branch of Trustmark bank. Also in the main banking lobby, at **6:15 pm** the **Elmore County Art Guild will announce the winners of the 2018 ECAG Tallassee NOW & Then.** All of the exhibitions will also be open from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm on **Saturday, June 9.** At 11:30 am on Saturday, the Elmore County Art Guild will announce and introduce the winners in the **2018 ECAG Tallassee City Schools Exhibition.** At **12:00 noon** am there will be a **luncheon** honoring artist **Dr. Ronald McDowell.** Dr. McDowell will talk about the evolution of his interesting career as an artist and art educator. Both of these events will take place at **301 King Street.**

All seven exhibitions will be open Friday, June 8 from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm and Saturday, June 9 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.

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• **Dixie Art Colony a Look at its Lasting Legacy** | This exhibit will take place in the main banking lobby of the downtown branch of Trustmark. The centerpiece of this exhibition will be four large, oversized murals designed and painted by well-known Elmore County artist Kelly Fitzpatrick and his protégé Arthur Stewart. The three larger murals measure 14 feet in length. The murals commissioned in 1952 by Bank of Tallassee president Roberts Blount depict important milestones in the history of the city of Tallassee. Also included in this exhibition will be other original artwork by Dixie Art Colony artists Kelly Fitzpatrick, Arthur Stewart, Warree LeBron, Carlos Alpha "Shiney" Moon, Genevieve Southerland, Walter Keith, Karl Ferdinand Wolfe, Mildred Nungester Wolfe, Anne Wilson Goldthwaite, Louise Smith Everton and more. The Dixie Art Colony first met in 1933 at the site of Cherokee Bluffs on Lake Martin. In 1937, the Dixie Art Colony settled at a permanent location in the Deatsville area of Lake Jordan known as Nobles Ferry. Some of the newly discovered works of art have never been publicly displayed. Family members of some of the colonists are expected to attend the reception.

The exhibition will also include a 16-minute documentary-style video about Elmore County's unique and historic Dixie Art Colony and the influence it had on the development of Southern Art during the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. Included in the video are vintage photographs taken from the Colony Scrapbooks. The DAC Foundation has documentation indicating that more 139 artists participated in the colony from 1933 through 1948.

• **Dixie Art Colony: A New Generation (Preview)** | This preview will include examples of artwork by current Dixie Art Colony Plein Air painters **Barbara Binford Davis, Carol Barksdale, and Iain Stewart**. The preview will also include photographs and information about the 2016, 2017 and 2018, Dixie Art Colony Foundation plein air painting events and plans for future events.

For more information about the Dixie Art Colony call 334-513-1086 or visit: DixieArtColony.org

• **Tallassee Community Art Show** | This exhibition conducted by the McCraney Cottle Arts Council will take place in the Trustmark Annex located on the east side of the downtown bank of Trustmark. The exhibit will feature Tallassee area artist. No fees will be charged to enter and all mediums will be accepted.

For more information, contact the McCraney Cottle Arts Council at 334-329-9318.

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• **Dixie Doodles: The Lighter Side of the Dixie Art Colony** | This exhibit will take place in the Historic Officers Quarters built in 1864 at 301 King Street on the east side of the downtown Trustmark Annex building. The highlight of this exhibition will be a series of painted tin panels rescued from the Nobles Ferry site of the Dixie Art Colony. The panels show playful scenes painted by Arthur Stewart, Warree LeBron, Mildred Nungester (Wolfe) and numerous others. Also included in this exhibit will be a series of caricature type sketches of some of the colonists, silkscreens, watercolors sketches, and pencil sketches by Richard Coe, Austin (Rudy) Martin, Frank Applebee, Kelly Fitzpatrick and more.

For more information about the Dixie Art Colony call 334-513-1086 or visit: DixieArtColony.org

• **Tallassee NOW & Then: Art Show** | This exhibit conducted by the Elmore County Art Guild will take place in the Historic Officers Quarters built in 1864 at 301 King Street on the east side of the downtown Trustmark Annex building. The theme, "Tallassee NOW & Then," encourages artists to focus on historical scenes of Tallassee's past and scenes that represent present day Tallassee. Monetary first, second and third place awards and numerous honorable mentions will be awarded in two categories, at 6:15 in the main Trustmark bank lobby during the June 8 reception to be held from 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm. Up to five entries per artist will be accepted. The competition is open to all artists 18 years of age and older. Both Elmore County Art Guild members and non-members are invited to participate. ECAG members will be charged a \$5.00 fee for each entry. Non-members will be charged a \$10 fee for each entry. This year's show will include a separate photography category.

Take in Location and Times are as follows: Monday, June 4, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm and Tuesday, June 5, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm at the Historic Officers Quarters located at 301 King Street, next door to the downtown Tallassee branch of Trustmark bank. Work must be picked up on Saturday, June 9, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm.

• **ECAG Tallassee City Schools "Sparking the Arts" Exhibition** | The exhibition will feature the 2018 ECAG "Sparking the Arts" student competition entries from each of the Tallassee City Schools. In this show, First, Second, and Third Place Winners will be selected from each of the three Tallassee schools. Trophies will be awarded to each of the winners at 11:30 am. This exhibition, also conducted by the Elmore County Art Guild will also take place in the Historic Officers Quarters built in 1864 at 301 King Street on the east side of the downtown Trustmark Annex.

For more information about the ECAG, call 334-399-5115 or visit: ElmoreCountyArtGuild.com

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• **The Artwork of Dr. Ronald McDowell** | Dr. McDonald is an internationally known African-American painter and sculptor based in Tuskegee, Alabama. His works, many of which are commissioned, can be found in private and institutional galleries and include illustrations, portraits, murals and sculptures. Portraits include those of such well-known persons as a Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu, Michael Jackson, Elvis Presley and Lionel Richie. McDowell and his works have been featured in national magazines and newspapers, on television programs and in public appearances. McDowell's art is on continuous display in Birmingham. Most notable is his 13-foot tall statue in Kelly Ingram Park. This exhibit will be coordinated by the McCraney Cottle Arts Council and will take place in the Historic Officers Quarters built in 1864 at 301 King Street on the east side of the downtown Trustmark Annex building.

For more information, contact the McCraney Cottle Arts Council at 334-329-9318.

• **The Artwork of Walt Spratlan** | Spratlan is a longterm resident of Bullock County. He began experimenting with oil paints while in the first grade. In addition to painting in oils, Spratlan has also worked as a graphic designer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree form Auburn University Montgomery with an emphasis in graphic design. Much of his work has been influenced by his travels to New York City, Rome, Isle of Capri and Venice.

For more information, contact the McCraney Cottle Arts Council at 334-329-9318.

Sponsors for the exhibitions include Trustmark Tallassee and the McCraney Cottle Arts Council. The Dixie Art Colony Foundation, Elmore County Art Guild, and the McCraney Cottle Arts Council are all non-profit corporations incorporated in Elmore County, Alabama. Donations to the DAC Foundation and the Elmore County Art Guild and the McCraney Cottle Arts Council are tax-deductible.

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High-resolution digital images and captions for the following photographs are available for use. Send image requests to M.Harris@DixieArtColony.org. DAC Foundation and Elmore County Art Guild logos are also available upon request.



Cherokee Bluffs 1-AP



Springlake 2-AP



Nobles Ferry 3-AP



Nobles Ferry 4-AP



Nobles Ferry 5-AP

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Arthur Stewart 6-AP



Deatsville Train Depot 7-AP



Kelly Fitzpatrick and Shiney Moon 8-AP



Karl Wolfe 9-AP

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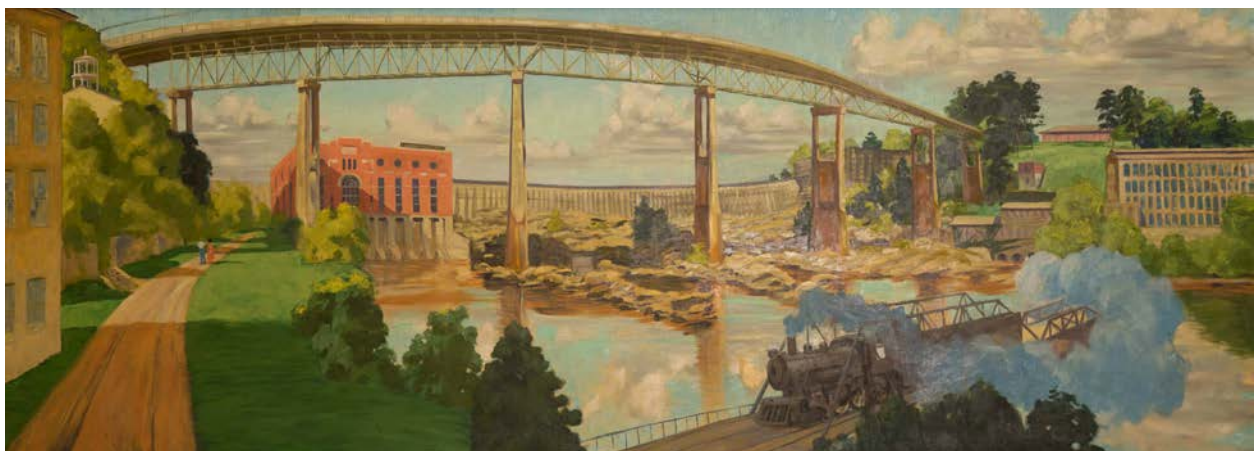
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Kelly Fitzpatrick / Arthur Stewart: Pastorial Scene, 1-Art



Kelly Fitzpatrick / Arthur Stewart: Tallassee's Fitzpatrick Bridge, 2-Art

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Dixie Art Colony Images

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Genevieve Southerland 3-Art



Genevieve Southerland 4-Art



Arthur Stewart 5-Art



Carlos Alpha "Shiney" Moon 6-Art

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Arthur Stewart 7-Art



Warree LeBron 8-Art



Kelly Fitzpatrick 9-Art



Arthur Stewart, "Green Mansion" 10-Art



Arthur Stewart, With "Green Mansion" 10-AP

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Dixie Art Colony: A New Generation Images

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Ian Stewart DAC-NG 1-Art



Ian Stewart DAC-NG 11-AP



Barbara Binford Davis DAC-NG 12-AP



Carol Barksdale DAC-NG 13-AP