

Through May 17 at the Philip & Mary Kathryn Trutter Museum . . .

# Reflection

A reunion of LLCC art alumni

**R**eflection is the ninth exhibit presented at the Philip and Mary Kathryn Trutter Museum at Lincoln Land Community College.

The exhibit celebrates the talents of 15 alumni of LLCC's Art Program, their continued connection to the college and the faculty that inspired them.

## About the alumni artists

### Carrie Beard

Carrie Beard is a photographer and art educator based in Springfield with 30 years of experience in making photographs and photographic prints. She is a juried artist member of the Springfield Art Association Collective and attended Lincoln Land Community College from 2012 to 2015 in order to update her technical skills in photography and graphic design.



### Denise (Nesa) Blakeman

Denise was born and raised in Blue Mound, Illinois where farming was king and art was not considered a career option. Although art has been a significant part of her entire life, her formal education and dedication came later. After LLCC, she completed a bachelor's degree at the University of Illinois at Springfield and currently participates in solo and group exhibits. She now resides in Taylorville where she works as a full time artist.

### Sharon Carter

After receiving her associate's degree at LLCC, Sharon completed her education with a bachelor's in communications. She recently returned to Lincoln Land and earned a certificate in Web Authoring and Design. A graphic designer for more than 20 years, Sharon has also worked in government, education, business and corporate worlds. All her work in this exhibit are silkscreens, which she discovered a few years ago and has been hooked since.

### Ashley Dickey

Ashley graduated from LLCC's art program in 2007, earned a bachelor's in visual arts from the University of Illinois at Springfield, then completed her education with a master's in studio art at Eastern Illinois University. In 2011, she joined the LLCC faculty as an adjunct professor. She lives in her hometown of Chatham with her husband and two children.

### Adam Dupuis

Adam began art classes at LLCC in 2002, taking painting and drawing courses with Thom Whalen, Al Shull, and George Lowry after receiving the Talented Student Scholarship. He then transferred to Eastern Illinois University to continue his studies, focusing primarily on painting. He earned a bachelor's from Eastern in 2010, then in 2012, a master's with an emphasis on sculpture. Adam's work involves a deep exploration of biological themes and is heavily influenced by scientific illustration and science fiction movies and books. Much of this work tends to focus on the moral and ethical ramifications of rapid technological progression. Adam lives in Springfield and is the owner of a construction and remodeling company and shows his artwork around the Midwest with a group of local artists and educators.

*continued on back*

## The Trutter Story

Phil Trutter was a lifelong lover of all things art, a passion instilled in him early on by his mother, Frances Mischler Trutter. He began taking art classes as a teenager, experimented with several mediums and parlayed his artistic talent into a career as an architect.

From the 1940s to the 1970s, Phil and his wife, Mary Kathryn, traveled the world and began collecting a vast array of art, artifacts and cultural items of interest. After Mrs. Trutter's death in 1977, Phil further nurtured his love of learning by taking art classes at Lincoln Land Community College. A friendship between a member of the college's art faculty and Phil lead to his vision for a museum that would share the couple's affection for learning and travel.

Upon Phil's passing in 2000, the family bequeathed much of the collection to the college along with a generous stipend to establish the museum. In addition to the worldwide artifacts, items in the collection also include Phil's own artwork, as well as photos, newspaper clippings, furniture and many other personal effects.

The Trutter Museum opened in 2004 and is administered by the LLCC Foundation to benefit students, faculty and the community.

Philip & Mary Kathryn

**Trutter**  
MUSEUM

Monday ~ Thursday  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
or anytime by appointment

217.786.2217

[llccfoundation@LLCC.edu](mailto:llccfoundation@LLCC.edu)

### Jessica Gottstein

After receiving her associate's degree from Lincoln Land in 2011, Jessica continued her career by working as a designer in the Student Life Office until 2013. In 2014, she moved to Springfield, Missouri, taking a position as art director at a marketing agency where she still works. She has recently been focusing on web design, and in her free time, works on hand-lettering skills. Jessica says, "Going to Lincoln Land and taking classes with Thom Whalen is one of the best decisions I've ever made."



### Amanda Greive

Amanda graduated from LLCC in 1998, then earned a degree in visual arts from the University of Illinois at Springfield in 2008. Since then, she has shown her work both nationally and internationally in exhibits at RJD Gallery in Bridgehampton, NY, Arcadia Contemporary in Los Angeles, Abend Gallery in Denver, Woman Made Gallery in Chicago, and the Rockford Art Museum in Rockford, Illinois. Most recently, she was a finalist in the 2017 Figurativas exhibit in Barcelona, and she was also a finalist in the 13th International ARC Salon, having been awarded a Rehs Contemporary award.



### Bryon Hartley



Bryon graduated from Lincoln Land in 2011, then went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees at SIU-Edwardsville and the University of Nebraska respectively. He returned to his central Illinois roots by opening the Bryon Hartley Studio in Dawson. His works are inspired by the materials themselves. "I combine glass, wood and metal in a way that I control the outcome. Nothing else looks like glass, feels like glass or has the presence of glass. Likewise, no two pieces of wood are the same. Steel, known for its strength and toughness starts to take on light when manipulated."

### Kyle Kirkpatrick

Upon graduation from Lincoln Land in 2012, Kyle went on to earn a bachelor's in fine arts from SIU-Edwardsville. He returned to LLCC briefly before moving to St. Louis in 2014 to pursue a full time career in art. He currently works at Mississippi Mud Pottery in Alton and serves as an educational assistant at Meramec Community College in Kirkwood, Missouri. Kyle also recently joined Artisans in the Loop, a gallery in University City, as a gallery artist.



Photo courtesy of Mississippi Mud Pottery

### Nino LoGrasso

Nino was born and raised in Springfield and currently works locally in the audio/visual industry. During his time at LLCC he studied under Thom Whalen and Michelle Coakes, as well as worked as a teaching assistant in the program. "All of the skills I acquired and mentorship I received during my time at LLCC have been indispensable in my creative life, and I look back at my time there with great fondness for the instructors, the program, and the college." Nino is currently pursuing a career as a freelance illustrator/graphic artist.

### Brittney Leach

Since graduating in 2014 from Lincoln Land with an associate's in graphic design technology, Brittney Leach has moved to Colorado to pursue a career in design. She gains her daily inspiration from nature and the many adventures it offers. "Getting outside is good for the soul and through my work, I try to bring the outside in."



### Maggie Michael

Maggie graduated from LLCC in 2010 with an associate's in art. She then earned a bachelor's from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Maggie

has combined her biggest passions to build a career as a graphic designer specializing in sports design and marketing. She is currently working for the St. Louis Blues where she develops season and social media campaigns, and works on a variety of printed materials. She previously worked for SLU Athletics, the Fighting Illini and the Denver Broncos. Maggie and her daughter, Autumn, live in Edwardsville.



### Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller hails from Beardstown. After studying at LLCC he earned a bachelor's at Western Illinois University. He is currently in his final stretch in the Iowa State University MFA program where his love for printmaking has morphed and mutated in the light of new media and installation. This inspiration led to building standard arcade machine cabinets to house his homemade games that highlight the plight of the line worker. His artwork uses a mixed-media approach to printmaking to develop installations that explore the working class struggle.

### Jordan Minder

Jordan Minder has been a maker of things since she can first remember. Born to an artist mother in 1995, art has always been a constant in her life. She discovered her medium, photography, at age 13, focusing predominantly on self-portraiture. Jordan graduated from LLCC in 2015 then went on to pursue Studio Arts at Illinois State University, with an emphasis in photography. She will graduate in May and plans to pursue a career in art therapy.

### John Romang

Upon graduation from Lincoln Land in 2003, John continued learning at Eastern Illinois University, earning a bachelor's of fine arts and a teaching certificate in 2006. He began his teaching career in Metropolis, teaching art to first through eighth graders for 11 years. In 2017, John moved across the river to Paducah, Kentucky when he was offered an art position in Paducah Public Schools. He recently completed his master's degree in Community Art Organization. John has participated in more than 20 group shows and five solo exhibitions. He says, "I feel that art is important aspect to who I am and that there is a need to continue to create and grow as an artist."



## About LLCC's Art Program

The curriculum of LLCC's art program is designed to challenge students to utilize all applicable technologies and materials to create works of art and design, while developing creative problem-solving strategies and critical-thinking skills. Art classes offered include ceramics, drawing, painting, printmaking, two- and three-dimensional design, sculpture and more.

Current faculty include **Michelle Coakes**, **Al Shull**, **Leslie Stalter** and **Thom Whalen**, all professors of art with vast, real-world experience. Founding faculty of the art program include **Adrian Lambert Boyle**, **Jack Madura** and the late **Jim Murray** and **George Lowry**.