

Bio

I grew up in the low country of South Carolina; in Charleston, downtown, just north of Broad on Queen Street; around the corner from the Dock Street Theater and one door down from the Children's Theater. It was a "colorful" neighborhood especially on Saturday mornings. Shrimp peddlers and flower women selling their wares and yelling their calls; setts, costumes and dancing characters from one theater to the other preparing for the weekend matinee. And the artists with their paintings hung on the fence at St. Phillips Church. This is my backdrop and love - a sense of place, layered, authentic and creative.

Weaving became an interest, then a hobby and then a full time livelihood for over 30 years and finally my tool for creating woven wall collages. I fell in love with "process" itself. Colorful, textural and sculptural landscapes hand dyed, loom woven with unconventional materials and finished with crochet, embroidery, needle felting, found objects and sewing. The process of making by hand satisfied my deep connection to antiquity and culture.

Painting developed out of the dye work I did for so many years in my weaving. Color and texture play the central role and I explore these elements to express the emotions of place, the feel of culture, and the color of experience. Intuitive and meditative, I enjoy bringing order to chaos, weaving the parts into the whole, and immersing myself completely into the process of creating.

Kim Whitt
318 Cook Road
Moselle, MS 39459
H: (601) 584-8035
C: (601) 310-4168
kwhitt318@bellsouth.net

Summary of Qualifications:

- Experienced leadership and collaboration skills
- Focuses on strategy and innovation
- Connects and partners for common goals
- Originates ideas and concepts
- Values the voice and welfare of people, communities and culture/heritage
- Operates with idealistic outlook and practical application
- Engages in research and development
- Provides vision and overview
- Sensitive and creative
- Synthesizes and orchestrates multiple viewpoints
- Builds relationships diplomatically
- Public speaker, facilitator and writer
- Technologically competent and up to date

Work Experience

Mississippi Art Colony, Director

April, 2017- present

- Oversee, manage and direct the two annual Colony retreat sessions held at Henry S. Jacobs Camp in Utica, MS. See www.msartcolony.net

Mississippi Arts Commission, Arts Education Director

Jackson, Mississippi

January 2006 – April 2014

- Oversee and manage grants and services for all arts education/ arts in education programming / community arts programming / artists and craftsmen

- Manage and coordinate all aspects of program development, fiscal responsibilities, event planning, and application/partnering processes for constituents
- Oversee and manage programming, grants, evaluation and services for Teaching Artist and Visual Artist Rosters
- Coordinate in and out of school arts learning strategies for diverse learning communities
- Contract service providers, staff and interns for all programs
- Research and write grants for program advancement
- Present workshops, conduct site visits and coordinate advisory groups for strategic planning of programming
- Assist in public relations and website management supporting arts education programming and community arts learning
- Serve on national grants panel for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
- Chairman, *Arts Education Advisory Group (AEAG)* for National Assembly for State Arts Agencies (NASAA) and the NEA
- Serve on the *Arts Learning Advisory Team* for NASAA
- Consultant on arts education and community arts learning strategies

Laurel City School District, Arts Educator and WSI Project Director

Laurel, Mississippi

August 1995 – December 2005

- Full time Creative Movement arts specialist grades K–6
- Full time Visual Art arts specialist grades pre K–6
- Co–Drama arts specialist grades 4–6
- Project Director for the Whole Schools Initiative 1997–2005
- Awarded Model Whole School for arts integration
- Choreographed, co–directed and managed multiple musical productions
- Coordinated and implemented community Cultural Arts Festivals
- Project Coordinator for Laurel School District’s Goals 2000 Grant:
Integrating the Arts and Technology into the Regular Curriculum

Henry Easterwood, Ed Lambert, Virginia West, Mary Francis Davidson among a few

Haystack School of Crafts and Design

1986

Deer Island, Maine

Scholarship for study with Cynthia Shearer

Textile Design

Artist Statement:

Currently, I work intuitively, responding to material and medium and exploring color and texture as tools to express the abstraction of nature, emotion and movement. By working in multi-layered oil and cold wax medium, I build up a history in a painting and then work to reveal and clarify the essentials of nature's forms, movement and relationships. Acrylics, mixed media and weaving also find their way into my abstract paintings adding to the narrative of place, feeling and culture