



The Scribe

FIFTH EDITION JULY 2024

OHIO'S ARTS NEWSPAPER

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The Happy Groundhog Studio

By Jeffrey Darah

I have some extremely cute hand-made stuffed animals to share with you today. These little critters are the fine handiwork of Melissa Bracken, the founder of **The Happy Groundhog Studio**. The Happy Groundhog Studio is a woman-owned eco-friendly art company that makes adorable stuffies out of recycled fabrics.

Located out of Cincinnati, these critters are all hand-made from upcycled sweaters, thrifted fabrics, and other eco-friendly felts. *"When I was young my grandmother, who we called Granny B, made sock monkeys, stuffed bunnies, and all sorts of wonderful gifts for me, my sisters and cousins. She was so creative and unique. The sock monkey she made me became my favorite stuffed animal and I still have it to this day. I actually passed it down to my children."*

Melissa's grandmother recognized an artistic talent and also taught her how to sew. Melissa soon took her talents to the Art Academy Of Cincinnati and earned a BFA in sculpture.

After graduation she took a side step into the corporate retail world and eventually became a mama and aunt.

During this time she was looking to create art while the little were around and could also enjoy. Wanting to give unique handmade gifts to the special kids in her life, she called upon the skills that her grandmother taught to up-cycle sweaters into stuffed plush critters. With her crazy love of animals and Granny B's spirit in her heart came the line of plush creatures and The Happy Groundhog Studio was born.

Melissa takes orders on her website, and is very active on social media. [@thehappygroundhogstudio](https://thehappygroundhogstudio.com) on Instagram, Facebook, Etsy and more!



thehappygroundhogstudio.com



Melissa with her collection of lovable plushies looking for a home.



WHAT IS THE SCRIBE?

The Scribe is a free outlet for Ohio creators: artists, authors, filmmakers, musicians, and more!

Do you play in a band? Paint as a hobby? Write poetry? Are you tired of not getting any exposure? Are you lacking in funds to properly advertise yourself? Submit your work to us!

The Scribe accepts submissions from everyone involved in the arts! Reach out to us and tell us about your work, show us your portfolio, and we'll take it from there.

Best of all, IT'S FREE! We don't take a cut, nor do we require a tedious application process. We are Ohio's best way for artists to grow! Reach out to us to get started.

APOLLO — PRESS —



The Scribe

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Tom Croce Photography



Tom Croce holding his Nikon camera.



Pictured above: Ohio Landscape (NIKON D810)
To the right: Badlands National Park (NIKON D810)

See the rest of Tom's website: tomcrocephoto.com

Meet Tom, a nature photographer who was born in Cleveland Ohio. He graduated with his BED Degree from Miami University school of Fine Art in 1984 and a Master of Architecture Degree from Washington University in 1987.

"I remember very clearly growing up in Northern Ohio, watching all the nature and wildlife programs I could find. I would dream of visiting the places I was seeing the magnificent landscapes and exotic wildlife. I would spend hours during my youth exploring the woods and streams near my home. My love for nature and photography came together in 2006 to help sustain me through a very difficult time in my life. Today my passion for nature photography is taking me to places that I could only dream of as a child, but they continue to take my breath away."

My photographic pursuits has deepened my connection to the natural world. Making a photograph is not just about taking a picture, it begins with the act of seeing, it's about being consumed by the moment and seeing and noticing the beauty in nature. The act of making a photograph is a deliberate and Internal process.

It is not just the process of recording an external event, but a tangible expression of the internal emotions and feelings at the moment of making the exposure. Then the photograph is presented to you as an expression of that moment, standing on its own, equal to, and expressive of the feelings and emotions from that time and place. I present these images to you with the hope you will share in my experiences and join me on my journey."



Daphnia Ceramics



Grab a mug, book a class, and see the rest of Emily's ceramics on her website:

daphniaceramics.com

Above: Chanterelle Mushroom Tea Pot

Right: Various mugs

Bottom right: Made to order ramen bowl

Emily also offers ceramic classes where you get to make a mug with her!



Emily Cline of Daphnia Ceramics is a ceramic artist and educator based out of Columbus, OH. She is known for her ceramic work that combines hand drawn screen printed patterns with clay, using a fusion of techniques that make up her trademark style. All of her work is functional, food safe, and meant to be in everyday use.

Each piece is hand thrown on a pottery wheel or built by hand before designs are added. As a printmaker turned ceramicist, she revels in the ability to create her own custom designs. She illustrates, exposes screens, hand screen prints designs onto paper, and then transfers them onto the surface of the clay.

A lover of hiking and foraging, Emily uses many patterns and images inspired by the flora and fauna of the woods in central Ohio. She is inspired by what she sees on her hikes and what is local to the area. Even more fun are the pieces where patterns are uniquely collaged onto the clay.

Scott Creed Art



Scott Creed

"Growing up in a small town, then moving to The Ohio State University, I learned a lot about myself."

Later in life when faced with the empty nest syndrome, I needed to find a new outlet. I began a self-taught journey in woodworking, painting and wall decor.

My love of the ocean meant that my projects often had a coastal feel and color theme. When I began to blend coastal colors into the interesting character of wood grain, I discovered "my own style" that is both unique and rewarding.

In addition to art, I look for reasons to be outside where I unplug as well. Morning coffee on the deck, an evening beverage on the deck, those are the bookends to a good day for me."

scottcreedart.com



Breaking Point



Masters Augusta 12th Hole



Outer Banks Waves

Slice of History: Toni Morrison



SLICE OF HISTORY

By Jeffrey Darah & Dylan Sarieh

In this new section dubbed Slice of History, I will detail well-known and influential figures in Ohio arts history. In this edition, I will cover fiction author, Toni Morrison. Born on February 18, 1931, in Lorain, Ohio, Toni stands as one of the most influential and celebrated authors in all of American literature.

Her powerful narratives and poetic prose have not only earned her numerous accolades, including a Nobel prize, but have shaped American literary history. Morrison's work, deeply rooted in the African American experience, particularly that of women, continues to be studied and revered in academic circles.

Growing up in a working-class family during the Great Depression, Morrison developed a strong interest in storytelling and literature from an early age. This passion would eventually lead her to Howard University, where she earned her bachelor's degree in 1953, followed by a master's degree in American literature from Cornell University in 1955. These formative years laid the foundation for her future career as both an editor and an author, allowing her to hone and develop her craft.

Morrison's journey in the literary world began when she joined Random House as a senior editor, a position she held for 20 years. During this time, she played a crucial role in promoting

works by African American authors, helping to amplify voices that had long been marginalized in the publishing industry. It was also during this period that Morrison embarked on her own writing career, publishing her first novel, *"The Bluest Eye,"* in 1970.

The impact of Morrison's work on American culture and literature cannot be overstated. In 1993, she became the first African American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature, a testament to her extraordinary contributions to the field. In addition to this, her novel *"Beloved,"* published in 1987, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and is widely considered a masterpiece. Morrison's achievements were further recognized in 2012 when President Barack Obama named her a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States, acknowledging her "especially meritorious contributions" to American culture and the world at large.

Morrison's tenure at Princeton University marked another significant chapter in her illustrious career. She joined the faculty in 1989 as a professor in the creative writing program, where she not only taught literature and writing but also founded the "Princeton Atelier" in 1994. This program brought renowned artists from various disciplines to collaborate with students on new work together. Her influence at Princeton extended far beyond the classroom, inspiring countless students and colleagues until her retirement in 2006.

Throughout her literary career, Morrison's novels pushed the envelope further and further. Works such as *"Song of Solomon"* (1977) and *"Jazz"* (1992) showcased her mastery of magical realism and non-linear narratives. These stylistic



Toni Morrison, accomplished African American author.

choices allowed her to explore complex themes of identity, memory, and the lingering effects of slavery on African American communities.

In addition to her novels and essays, Morrison ventured into other forms of storytelling. She wrote children's books in collaboration with her son, Slade Morrison, including *"The Big Box"* and *"The Book of Mean People."* These works proved her versatility as a writer and her commitment to addressing these complex themes for younger audiences. Morrison also wrote the libretto for the opera "Margaret Garner," based on the true story that inspired her novel *"Beloved,"* further expanding the reach of her storytelling into the realm of musical performance.

Morrison's work has been adapted for various media, further extending its reach and impact. The film adaptation of *"Beloved,"* starring Oprah Winfrey,

brought Morrison's haunting story to a wider audience. Additionally, her novels have been adapted for the stage, including productions of *"The Bluest Eye"* and *"Desdemona,"* a response to Shakespeare's *"Othello"* that reimagined the story from a feminist perspective.

Beyond her award-winning novels, Morrison made significant contributions to literary criticism and African American cultural commentary. Her collection of essays, *"Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination"* (1992), offered an excellent analysis of the role of African Americans in white American literature. This work, along with her numerous lectures and interviews, established Morrison as a leading intellectual voice on issues of race, gender, and African American identity.

"The Source of Self-Regard" stands as Toni Morrison's final published work, a powerful collection of essays, speeches, and

meditations spanning four decades of her illustrious career. This anthology showcases Morrison's profound insights on a wide range of topics, including literature, culture, politics, and the human condition. The book is divided into three parts: "The Foreigner's Home," "Black Matter(s)," and "God's Language," each exploring different facets of Morrison's intellectual preoccupations.

Morrison's passing in 2019 was mourned globally, with tributes pouring in from writers, politicians, and readers whose lives had been touched by her work. Her legacy continues to shape American literature and culture, inspiring new generations of writers and thinkers to explore the complexities of identity, history, and human experience with courage and compassion.

We hope you enjoyed this *slice of history* and that you decide to pick up some of Toni's published works in your local library.



Toni receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom from Barack Obama (2012)

Wyatt Micka: Traditional Watercolor Artist

By Dylan Sarieh

Who are you and how do you describe yourself as an artist?

Hello! My name is Wyatt Micka, and I'm very grateful that you gave me this opportunity! To answer this question, It really depends on the context. For example, I would have to say that I'm very much a perfectionist. I want things done exactly how I envision it or exactly how I interpret it from a reference. This has its pros and cons, for example it can take a long time for me to finish a piece, however you know it won't be half baked. With this in mind, I could also describe myself as an artist who is in his exploratory phase. I don't quite have a style that one can say is uniquely me, and I'm not sure if that will ever happen. I started with colored pencils, switched to watercolor out of curiosity, and then once I've had my fill of that, I'm now in an oil paint impressionism craze. I suppose I'm trying out different styles so I can put that experience under my belt, a tool ready to utilize when necessary. This doesn't mean I will never go back to a previous medium, though.

How did you first become introduced to artwork in general?

Pokemon! The designs of those creatures always in-

terested me, so I traced a few and it hit me like a ton of bricks that I just DREW that (Obviously it wasn't my work, but little elementary school me still thought it was the coolest thing ever that I made an artwork.)! Now if we wanted to get more specific, I was first introduced to creativity with LEGOs. And I'm not talking about pre-made sets with instructions, I had a whole tub full of loose LEGO pieces that I would create weird and wonderful things with. Characters, vehicles, weapons, treasure. And all of these things would be a part of adventures that I created, everything having a story.

What themes or ideas are you attracted to create or represent in your work?

Whatever I feel at the time of making the piece. At first, I was doing color pencil work of anything I found pleasing to look at. A dragon, an owl, a video game character. When I switched to watercolors, I was mostly just trying to capture the essence and beauty of nature. But currently, I'm focusing on an oil on canvas impressionism style that does have themes and symbolism, mainly focusing on modern society's dating culture.

Out of all the art options, what pulled

you into watercolor landscapes?

While I was mainly focused on watercolor, I mostly enjoyed the challenge of the medium. You need patience and need to know how to effectively layer your colors together. Plus, the versatility of water allows the use of different materials to get different effects. You can make clouds by pulling a still wet sky out with paper towels. You can use a really rough sponge to form a rough, rocky texture in a cliff face or asphalt.

To those who are interested in painting, but nervous to start, what would you tell them?

Nervous to start.. Depends on why they are nervous! But, a few choice quotes from Bob Ross come to mind: "All you need to paint is a few tools, a little instruction, and a vision in your mind." And this one, too: "I started painting as a hobby when I was little. I didn't know I had any talent. I believe talent is just a pursued interest. As I explored art more as I grew up, this blew my mind after seeing the work that Ross could do. With this in mind, if someone is nervous to start, the best advice I can give you is to find a good instructor who will bring out your passions and will teach

you the basic foundations of drawing and painting. I'm not talking academia either, local private art classes will provide more of what you are looking for rather than college. I started my journey with Robert Schira, owner of "For the Love of Art" right on the corner of Holland Sylvania and Sylvania Ave. He's taught me a lot, and provides amazing classes even now.

From your beginnings, how and why did you decide to present yourself professionally?

This I can't really answer all that well. I guess I just wanted to show off my work because I love getting all kinds of feedback. And it seemed like the logical next step. It's not about the money for me, and while that would be nice, it's more about the creation.

How do you want others to perceive your work or yourself as an artist?

However they want to perceive me, man. I can't really control how people perceive me, so for me to want people to see me in one way or another just seems silly to me. I just want to make art, and then let the dice fall where they may.

Do you have any insight or advice



Wyatt Micka, native Toledo artist

you may like to share to artists who are also trying to develop their art career?

Trying to develop their career? I'll be honest and say that I'm for sure not an artist that has made it "successfully", and by that I mean in context of wealth and/or recognition. It's very very difficult to monetize creative action in modern society. Hell, probably in any society. You need to know the right people, or be noticed by the right people. There's a great Youtube video called "Home Movies: The Spirit of Creation" by EmpLemon that touches on this topic extensively, it's a great watch if anyone's ever interested in the (maybe grim) reality of how people view art and artists. With

this in mind, my best advice is to make sure you have a nice stable job while doing your art, like I am. Also, DO NOT pass up on opportunities presented to you.

Do you have any official education as an artist? Would you recommend this to others?

I do! I'm graduating from University of Toledo with a bachelors in Visual Arts in Spring 2025. College isn't for everyone. However, something I did enjoy was the sheer amount of different avenues for art creation that not everyone has readily on hand. Metal casting, screenprinting, ceramics, etching, laser engraving, etc. If you want to get into

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Wyatt Micka: Traditional Watercolor Artist

continued from page 5

an art medium that is not commonplace, college can give you that opportunity.

If you find yourself stuck, who or what do you turn to resolve this?

Artist block really is the worst. Personally for me, if I'm doing something with someone else or if I promised to do something for someone, I will make the time for it. If I just tell myself that I'm going to do something, chances are I'll not. So I get around my artist's block by promising a project will be done by a certain deadline to someone, even if it's not a commission. It could be to a friend or family member, and I'll say something like "Oh, yeah, I can't wait to show you when it's finished! I promise it'll be done by [enter time here]"

Who are your biggest supporters?

How would you like people to support yourself or other artists in their life?

My family, my friends and peers, and my loved ones. Support us by being critical and honest with our work. Obviously not in any malicious way, but in a constructive way. While going to college for visual arts, you will need to

do quite a lot of critiques. The critiques I was in, it almost never failed that students would have nothing but nice things to say about another student's piece, even if it was unfinished or it was obvious that time wasn't put into it. Even if substantial time was put into a piece, sometimes it just misses the mark. But we can't improve as artists if no one tells us that we missed that mark! And I'm not talking about pieces that are avant-garde and a little alien in nature, ones that are maybe a little divisive. A piece that gets people talking is great. People really disliked Manet's Luncheon on the Grass during its time, but nowadays it's revered as a masterpiece. The difference here is that Manet did this with purpose and to prove a point. He had something to say about the artistic academic institutions at the time. **How do you feel about the rise of AI in art and how do you personally contend with this?** A love-hate relationship with this topic. AI is a great tool for making art, but it should not be a substitute for the skill, time, and dedication it takes to make a piece. Many times I will have this idea of an artwork in

my head and, in my brain, I can perfectly picture how everything looks. But when I go to execute, it comes out less than stellar. Putting the prompt into an AI image generator gives me a reference of my own original idea. No one should ever trace or, God forbid, just straight up present an AI generated image as their own work. I think it's safe to say that AI takes from many sources of different artists and combines them into the prompt that you have imputed into the text box, so calling that your own work is wrong. It's your prompt and it's your idea, sure. But it's not your work. However, using that generated image as reference to make something unique is something I can get behind, and it's something I've been experimenting with myself since I have those issues, putting thoughts onto paper/canvas. **Where do you prefer that others connect with you?** I have a website that will only have a year left, because I couldn't justify the yearly cost with the low amount of attention it gets via just word of mouth alone. However, for shits and giggles, I'll give it to you. I also have my email, and this is probably my most preferred method

of getting into contact with me about my art. My facebook page will work too, contacting via facebook messenger.

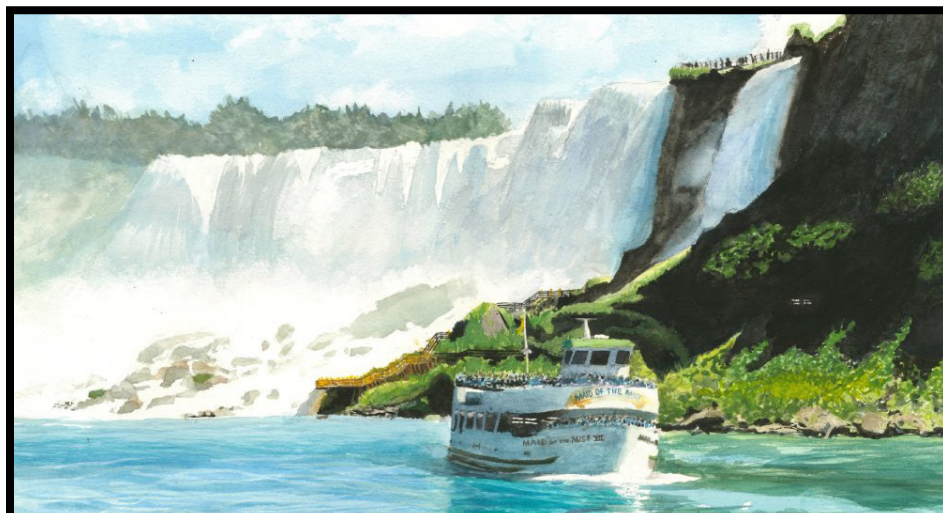
wyattmicka.com

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wyattmickaofficialart@gmail.com



"Blue Bird" 2019, colored pencil



"Maid of the Mist" 2017, watercolor



"(T.I.)T.R.O.H.C." 2024, oil on canvas

Indie Film Spotlight - The Ride to Nowhere



By Jeffrey Darah

For the July edition of *The Scribe's* Indie Film Spotlight, I present *The Ride to Nowhere*. Directed and written by Toledo native Anthony Wright, *The Ride to Nowhere* is an upcoming feature-length indie drama filmed in the Toledo area. A young man named Jimmy and his buddy Zak embark on a road trip to visit an old crush. I interviewed Anthony to learn more about him and his upcoming film. **What was the inspiration behind the story and these characters?**

Growing up, I loved coming of age movies. Superbad, Stand By Me, and Ferris Bueller's Day Off are just a few to name. Seeing characters from those movies face larger than life situations had me on the edge of my seat. They made me gasp, laugh, and cry. It was such a thrilling experience! These movies also inspired me to reflect on similar experiences in my life, when something totally came out of left field and had me in total disbelief, but also which I grew from as well! **How did you go about casting the lead roles of Jimmy and Zak?** I knew that these two roles were incredibly important. I reached out to Ben Kunec, A University of Toledo theatre student who was willing to

dive more into acting in front of the camera. He landed the role of Jimmy, a young pizza delivery man whose passion for playing guitar has slipped away. This was my first time working with Ben, and I hope to work with him again in the future! Zak, Jimmy's best friend and drone enthusiast, was played by the talented Youseff Baddar. Youseff and I have been collaborating since 2017, and it's safe to say he brings his A game to every project we work on together. Ben and Youseff had remarkable on set chemistry. It was so much fun seeing these two energetically interact with each other.

What were some of the biggest challenges in filming on location for a road trip movie?

Since we stuck around the 419 Area for most of shooting, I wanted to include areas that weren't too recognizable. For instance, I didn't want to shoot any scenes with the Toledo Skyline in the background, or the University of Toledo's Bell tower in any of the scenes when the characters were on the road. I felt like those locations would've been too recognizable. Instead, I wanted to include all of the hidden gems such as the deep reaches of the Oak

Openings region, and The Geekeasy Pinball bar beneath the Distillery.

What was it like filming on the road at all the different locations?

It was exciting! A family friend was generous enough to let us use their barn all the way out in Elmore, Ohio. Despite the rain delay from that day, it was a thrilling shoot!

How much did the script evolve over various drafts in terms of plot, characters, etc.?

It was exciting getting to write compelling characters. Not just the main characters, but the side characters as well. For instance, Ricky, a greaser looking thug played masterfully by the talented Liam Anderson, was given an extra scene after filming originally wrapped in June of 2023.

After watching the 3 scenes involving his character, I thought to myself "Wow...I want to see more of this guy!" So in October, my buddy Jarrett and I got together to brainstorm, and we came up with a fun idea. After the outline for this extra scene was written, I ran the idea by Liam, and he loved it! We reached out to Alyssa Mullins, another talented actor based in the area, and she agreed! We shot the new scene on a rainy November day

at Howard's Bar in Bowling Green. I walked away from that shoot with a giant smile on my face! Liam and Alyssa knocked it outta the ballpark!

When will the movie release in theaters, and where can we see it at?

The Ride to Nowhere will be making its Toledo debut on October 18th, at the Imagination Station! After that, we are considering having another local screening for those who can't make it. After it's film festival run comes to an end, we want to find a streaming service to stream the movie.

How long have you been directing films, and what got you into directing?

I've been directing films since I was 10 years old. Before then, My cousin, Patrick McCarty (AKA Guy in the 419) included me in a bunch of his comedy sketches.

Do you major inspiration from any other directors?

One of my favorite directors of all time is Vince Gilligan. He does a remarkable job with world building, and bringing the best performances out of his actors. Breaking Bad is easily in my top 5 favorite shows of all time! **If you could urge our readers to see just one movie, what would it be?**

The Sandlot. It has something in it for everyone. "You're Killing me smalls!"



Where did the initial idea or inspiration come from for this story?

After I wrapped up editing my last film Monarch, I went into 2022 with a clean slate. I thought to myself "Hmmm....well I've always wanted to tell a coming of age story." One of my favorite coming of age films of all time is Stand By Me, (Rest in Peace River Phoenix). It inspired me because it had dramatic moments, and also plenty of comedic ones as well. Like the characters from Rob Reiner's classic picture, the characters in *The Ride To Nowhere* discover more about themselves throughout their journey. **What do you hope that audiences take away from this film? Is there an overarching message?**

My goal was to create something that was both exciting and enlightening for the

audience. Seeing these talented actors bring their characters to life on the big screen has been such a delight. I feel as if the audience will be able to relate to these characters along with the situations they're thrown into unexpectedly. Hopefully, they will engage in the frustrations, humor, and other emotions throughout the film.

We thank Anthony for allowing us to interview him and share the details of his upcoming movie with us! I am also very excited to have yet another movie be filmed in my hometown of Toledo, and not only that, but also be released on my birthday (October 18th.) Keep up to date with Anthony and his future films by following him on social media, [@anthony_wright_films](#) on Instagram.

Upcoming Ohio Art & Music Festivals For July



Boston Mills Artfest (bmbw.com)

When: July 6-7 | Cost: \$15 at the door, \$11 pre-sale, 12 and under free.



Sylvania Plein Air Festival (redbirdsylvania.org)

When: July 28-31 | Cost: Free!



2024 Cincinnati Music Festival (cincymusicfestival.com)

When: July 25-27 | Cost: Varies based on available seating



Art on the Mall (artonthemall.org)

When: July 28 10am-5pm | Cost: Free



Cain Park Arts Festival (cainpark.com)

When: July 12-14 (Hours Vary) | Cost: Free



Westerville Music & Arts Festival (westervillechamber.com)

When: July 13-14 | Cost: \$2, 10 and under free

Jacob Dilley Photography

“My name is Jacob Dilley, and I am a photographer from Columbus, Ohio who enjoys capturing moments of the world around me.

What started as a Covid hobby has really become a meditative practice and a creative outlet for me. Even though I’ve always seen myself as an artist and musician, diving into photography brought a whole new dimension to my creative journey. It’s all about bringing myself into the present moment, being immersed in my surroundings, and connecting with the world around me.

Whether it’s capturing a serene landscape, the bustling energy of a city skyline, or the candid moments on the streets, I’m on a constant quest to discover and preserve the beauty and essence of wherever I find myself. It’s incredibly humbling to know that others can see and appreciate that same beauty in my work.”

See more at jacobdilleyphoto.com



Back in the Spotlight – Jamie Berilla Photography



A regular photographer with *The Scribe*, Jamie Berilla returns with more nature photography.

These new photos were shot in the Wintergarden / St. John's Nature Preserve, in Bowling Green Ohio.

We work with Ohio photographers to grow their audience and help set them up for success!

As a great example, Jamie is using *The Scribe's* new Portfolio page feature.

You can view all of their images on our website using this personalized link. If you would also like a free portfolio page, let us know!

thescribe.news/jberilla



Jamie is now also available on the new artist app "Cara."

cara.app/jamiespictures



July's Notable Events: Toledo

July 2nd

TAC Meet and Greet/ Reception

New Member Reception w/ Snacks, 5:30-7:30pm, Toledo Artists' Club

July 2nd

Bedazzled Fireworks

Kids' Firework Art, 4-5pm, Waterville Library

July 3rd

Lunchtime Music at the Library: Moonfire

Rock Music, 12-1pm, Main Toledo Library

July 8th

Elaine Scarvelis' Summer Camp Start

4 Day Art Camp, 9:30am-12:30pm, July 8th-12th, Toledo Artists' Club Studio

July 8th

Lucas County Senior Fair

Arts and Crafts Exhibition, July 8th-14th, variable times of 10am-6pm, 1406 Key Street Maumee

July 9th

Crazy Craig's Juggling Variety Show

Kids Comedy Show, 6-7pm, King Road Library

July 9th

Ellie the Baby Dragon Event

Kids'/Teens' Glass Blowing Experience, 2-5pm, Kent Library

July 10th

Ukele Class with Belisntrumental

Kids' Music Class, 11:30am-12:30pm, Kent Library

July 10th

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Kids' Performance by Children's Theatre Workshop, 2-2:50pm, Main Toledo Library

July 11th

Live at the Library with Kat Wright

Soul band concert, 6:30-8:00pm, Main Toledo Library

July 12th

TC Acrylics Paint Pouring Class

Beach-Themed Paint Class, 6-7:30pm, Toledo Artists' Club

July 12th

Authors! w/ Kate Quinn

Historical Female Political Book Presentation, 7-8pm, Main Toledo Library

July 13th

Stories of Disability Pride 2024 Event

Live Stories, Art, and Dance Performance, 2-5pm, Toledo Glass Pavilion

July 17th

Adult Flute Choir Class

7-9pm, Toledo Alliance for Performing Arts Rehearsal Room

July 18th

Mini Spins

Art Machine Demonstration by Spin & Splat Art Studio, 11am-12pm, South Library

July 20th

19th African American Music Fest

2-11pm, Huntington Center on Jefferson Ave.

July 21st

TAPA Family Fun Days!

Live Music Performances and Demonstrations, 2-5pm, Ottawa Park

July 22nd

Dragon Training Academy

Animatronic Puppet Show by Brock Baranabas, 3:30pm-4:30pm, Washington Library

July 25th

Free Glassblowing Demonstrations

2-3pm, Toledo Glass Pavilion

July 27th

Summer Color Exhibition: Last Day

Feelings of Summer, 10am-6pm, Hudson Gallery

July 27th

Art Loop: Young Artists

Youth Art Party by The Arts Commission, 12-4pm, 14-18th Adams Street

July 28th

Sunday Brunch

Exclusive Summer Brunch, 11am-4pm, Toledo Museum of Art Cafe

July 31st

Lunchtime Music at the Library: Sisters of Thunder

Steel Guitar/Gospel Music, 12pm-1pm, Main Toledo Library

July 31st

Magic Story Artistry w/ Yasu Ishida

Kids' Japanese-themed Storytelling Event

Oiseau by Abby Elise Baker

By Jeffrey Darah

When I was scouting for artists for this month's edition, I came across Abby's profile on the Columbus Arts Festival website. I was immediately drawn to her unique style and how she presents her brand and image. I spend quite a bit of time each month looking for artists and finding Abby was a clear winner in my mind.

Her framed floral artwork is something that I would hang in my home, without a second thought, so naturally this means I had to showcase her in this month's edition of *The Scribe*. I reached out to her and asked her to introduce herself to our readers.

"You never know where life's little detours might lead you. Take my art journey, for instance. It all started at the University of Dayton with a simple need to fill an elective slot. I signed up for Introduction to Art History, thinking it would be an easy A. Little did I know, that one choice would change my life forever. Within a week, I was hooked. Art wasn't just an elective—it became my obsession. One

meeting with the head of the art department and two weeks later, I was officially an art major. Goodbye, easy A; hello, lifelong passion.

From that moment on, I was neck-deep in the art world, spending countless hours in the studio and diving headfirst into the works of Monet, Da Vinci, and Bernini. These masters didn't just create art; they crafted legacies. Inspired by their distinctive styles, I set out to carve my own path. By blending Monet's dreamy impressionism, Da Vinci's intricate sketches, and Bernini's dramatic realism, I discovered a style that felt uniquely me.

But finding my style was just the beginning. My love affair with art extended to the frames, inspired by French architecture and its ornate motifs. I noticed how often frames overshadowed the artwork they held, and I wanted something different. So, I started painting directly onto the frames, making them part of the art itself. My goal is simple: I want my paintings to connect with you like your favorite song, evoking feelings of hope, love, joy, or even sadness—whatever speaks to



your soul. So, immerse yourself in my work, connect with me, and together, let's keep spreading the beauty of art."

My personal favorite artist of this edition, be sure to check out her social media and website when you get the chance! Abby goes by the name "Oiseau" on all social media, so if you like what you see, look for @oiseau on Instagram and Facebook.

Also of course, check out her website at oiseau.co. There are also some vintage art books being sold on her site, along with custom merch, so there's something for everyone. You may see me rocking an Oiseau baseball cap in the near future.



*"Goodbye, easy A;
hello, lifelong
passion."*



Abby Elise Baker, owner and creator of Oiseau



Ryan Cassidy (@6drone4) Photography



Downtown Sunset



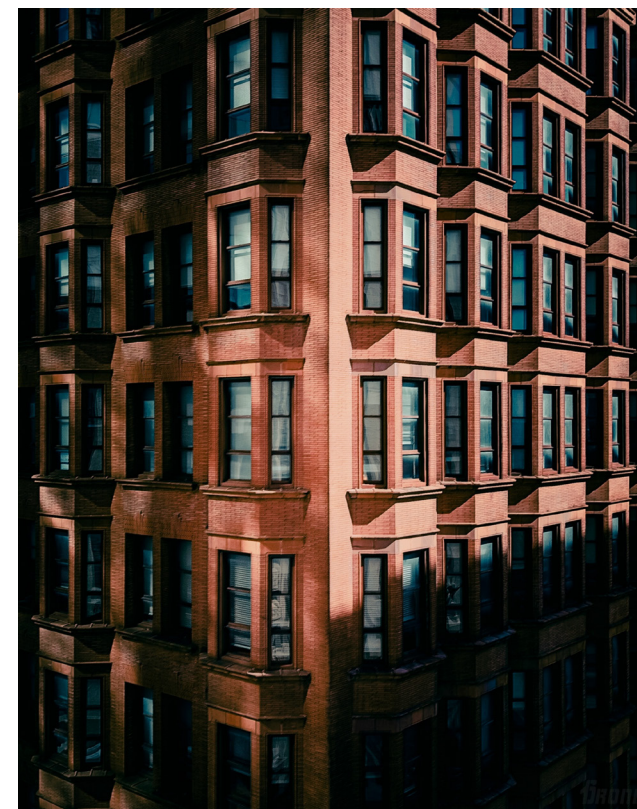
Hot Air Balloon



Wyandotte



Leveque



Wyandotte - Another Angle

"I'm Ryan and I'm an amateur photographer based in Columbus, Ohio. I got started in photography during the pandemic when everyone was stuck at home. Initially I just wanted to share photos from my drone. From there I started to teach myself how to edit but it was a slow process.

At one point I crashed my drone and while waiting for a replacement I started getting into regular photography. Now I love to do both. I tend not to take photos of people. I focus more on landscapes. I am most drawn to the composition of a photo. Like how can I make a normal shot unique. I have also gotten into film photography using old cheap cameras. I really enjoy the simplicity of them. The only problem is it's not uncommon for half the pictures I take to turn out like garbage. But I have also gotten some real gems."

Follow Ryan on Instagram!



@6drone4

Announcing The Marketplace

By Jeffrey Darah

Behold, another way to make money through *The Scribe!* Announcing, The Marketplace! The Marketplace will be a page dedicated in each future edition going forward where artists may list their artwork for sale. Not only is it 100% free to list your artwork, but the paper's massive reach in all major cities nearly guarantees a sale.

The Scribe is dedicated to giving Ohio artists and other creators as many free tools as possible to expand their reach. In my mind, I am disgusted by massive marketplaces like Etsy and Mercari charging all sorts of fees. Any major sale felt like you were giving up \$30 just for the privilege of using the website. Further, I always felt strong armed into paying for ads when there was no organic reach. To that end, I say, no more!

Going forward, *The Scribe* will allow anyone selling tangible works to list them in each edition. Works must be photographed in good lighting, and there must not be any doubt that you created the piece. Original works with only one available copy are also welcomed, and there is no real limit on size as long as a package delivery company can safely move it. As of now, digital items are not allowed to be listed, but this may change in the future.

If you don't have a way for your customers to check out securely online, we will assist you in this. The end result will be a QR code listed near your work, which will lead customers to a secure checkout, where they will be able to instantly purchase your art. Even better, everything that is purchased is directly supporting a local Ohioan!

To start this edition's Marketplace, you may purchase the stuffed animals featured on the

frontpage article, The Happy Groundhog Studio and Abby Baker's original painting "Jeanne." To begin purchasing any of the products listed to the right, simply scan the QR code using your phone camera. From there, you will be brought to the product page.

Remember, the Marketplace is open to ALL tangible art sellers located in Ohio. If you are reading this and have something unique or interesting to sell, please reach out, and we can get your item listed.

MAKE MONEY THROUGH THE ARTIST FUND

If you are interested in getting paid through **The Scribe**, then get involved with The Artist Fund.

The Artist Fund is a special fund that slowly grows in funding based on the amount of donations we get per month. A percent of all donations we receive will be allocated into this fund.

The Artist Fund will be evenly divided amongst all individuals who had submit content in the most recent edition. Each edition, the Fund will reset back to \$0, and the cycle begins again.

To officially join The Artist Fund and begin receiving payments, make sure that you meet the requirements listed below:

- Currently live in Ohio
- Over 18 years old and a legal US citizen
- Submitted your own work into at least two editions of *The Scribe*
- No AI Art!

If you are eligible, please reach out to us over email or phone!



"Jeanne"

oiseau.co

By Abby Elise Baker

acrylic on raw cotton canvas and vintage frame

23" x 29"

This painting would add a burst of color and joy to any room, perfect for those who love florals or are looking to bring a touch of vintage-inspired charm to their decor.

More photos available online.

\$825



Buy either of these items directly from the artist using the QR code below each listing!



Happy Squirrel Stuffed Animal

thehappygroundhogstudio.com

This crafty little squirrel knows just how to win your heart. An heirloom quality gift, the Happy Squirrel, is handmade and crafted from reclaimed sweaters with details made from eco-fi felt. Eco-fi felt is made from recycled plastic bottles and the stuffing is hypoallergenic. This Happy Squirrel is a Happy Groundhog Studio original design.

Standing at approximately 12" in length and about 8" wide, the Happy Squirrel has a sweet little red heart sewn on the belly pocket for that extra touch of love. You can add a special treat, like the nut shown, a note, or gift card.

\$45



Sara Akbarian-tefaghi Art (Ribbon People by Sara)



Sara Akbarian-tefaghi, creator and owner of Ribbon People

By Jeffrey Darah

An incredibly unique style, Sara Akbarian-tefaghi brings us "Ribbon People." Sara describes the concept of Ribbon People through a poem:

"At times our bodies are
incapable of
containing us,
Sometimes, we don't even know
what to feel,
or why we feel what we feel,
and how to rein our emotions in.
At times it gets tough to hold in
all
the love you helplessly feel for
someone,
Or to fill the endless void you
feel at a great loss,
Some of us are falling apart in
apathy,
and some swiftly battling all
the adversities.
And the limitless potential in
every child... growing up from
childhood and all it's
possibilities.
Ribbon People™ capture our
enigmatic beings
so damn well."

I personally find the overall concept of Ribbon People to be quite beautiful.

It is true that everyday life can sweep you away with unexpected twists and turns. Suddenly plunging you on an adventure of a lifetime, or placing you in a difficult situation filled with great loss. Sara introduces herself to us:

"Painting and sketching comprise the majority of my childhood memories. I couldn't see a future in my hometown, Tehran (Iran), and an art degree was no way to study abroad. I decided to study chemistry, was rewarded a scholarship, and earned a PhD in the US. I worked my way up to a professional career, and have deeply enjoyed science, but I always felt that art was missing.

Over the past few years, I rebuilt my collection and myself as an artist, while being a full-time scientist and mom of two. I brought Ribbon People and Ribbon Land (TM) to life, and I was honored to exhibit them at the 2024 Columbus Arts Festival for the first time! Ribbon

People represent our intrinsic limitlessness, boundless emotion, and potential. It is centered around our essence, not our looks or race. Ribbon Land takes it to the next level, capturing the magical and ephemeral coexistence of the elements we borrow from nature, to experience life and love for just a breath. It was so beautiful to share these concepts in person with people I didn't know and see them connect with them and fall in love. Nothing is more rewarding than reaching inside someone's soul and making an instant mark."

A huge thank you to Sara for showing her artwork off for us in this edition. All of Sara's wonderful works of art are available for purchase on her website. She is also on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and LinkedIn under her full name. You can also find her works by the name "Ribbon People by Sara."

saraakbariantefaghi.com



"Eagle in the Cage" & "But What If"



"She"



Shades of Loss and Love Collection

Help us grow!

Our mission is to provide free exposure and support for all Ohio artists and creators!

We are currently working on upgrading the newspaper's quality and scope, having recently expanded into Columbus. With your support, we can make a larger impact!

Jeffrey Darah
(419) 470-9489
contact@apollo-press.com



Scan the QR to donate

