



2009 Arizona Artists' Guild Visual Art Scholarship Winners Artists' Statements



Eleanor Richards, MFA Candidate ASU, Sculpture
2009 AAG Gerry Grout Visual Art Scholarship Award

I create work in wood that addresses issues of childhood, play, and education using found wood from construction sites. I juxtapose shifts in scale and finish to interpret concepts related to these themes. In this series, a simple chair form takes on different roles and subject matter. I am interested in and often reference teaching philosophies developed by people such as Maria Montessori, founder of Montessori Education, and the inventor of kindergarten, Friedrich Froebel. I have used German titles to draw a connection to Froebel as well as other German educational movements such as the Bauhaus. In the pieces shown, I have contrasted a colored finish on one side with crude treatment of the material on the other in order to create a balance between work and play. Within this relationship of playing, building, and making, I find endless motivation to explore which leads to a continuous drive to make.



Olivia Timmons, MFA Candidate ASU, Printmaking
2009 AAG Gerry Grout Visual Art Scholarship Award

My current body of work deals with social, political, and physical issues concerning the planet today. I use creatures of light juxtaposed to deep, dark and murky oceanic atmospheres as a metaphor to one of the most prominent global concerns: the sustainability of the planet. The natural world is in a constant state of flux, yet the more humanity strives toward irresponsible technological advancement, the more the awareness of the environment and the past is lost. I hope to inspire viewers to pause, observe, and reflect upon the state of the environment and encourage them to pursue a reconnection with the past.



Terri Krallitsch, BA Candidate NAU, Painting & Printmaking
2009 Ruth S. Magadini Visual Art Scholarship Award

My oil paintings currently reflect colors and shapes of Lockett Meadow, an area of the San Francisco Peaks in Flagstaff. My inspiration comes from the sense of freedom and awe provided by the outdoors. This is the same feeling I have while painting. I am always amazed by the beauty of something as small as a leaf. Each one has its own structure, its own color scheme, and its own expression. By using vibrant colors and abstracted shapes, my goal is to grab the attention of viewers the same way these images catch my attention in their natural habitat. I take basic concepts, like leaves and tree trunks, and express my emotions on the topic by experimenting with technical applications of oil paints. Artistic expression is a necessity in my life. We live in a fast-paced society with a variety of stresses and pressures. I feel it is important that we all take some time to see the details of what we normally take for granted. It is often times these small things that allow us deal with the bigger parts of life.



Shelly Flores, BA Candidate U of A, Photography
2009 AAG Visual Art Scholarship Award

My work responds to the long-standing dialogue regarding the photographic medium's accurate representation of reality. Using banal situations, I stage common objects in unexpected environments. This surreal vernacular unsettles and disassociates the viewer from everyday life. I depend on medium and large format cameras to attain exquisite and objective detail. The traditional style of black and white photography transmits veracity to the viewer. Subsequently, the experience is tensioned between the medium of straight photography and the bizarre. Free association of the subject matter and narrative are encouraged.