

2019 Nature Calls



Artists & Exhibitors:

Susan McCulley, Wildlife Art

Jana Sawin Peterson, Autumn Prairie Designs Jewelry

J Mark Lary, Second Chance Woods

Julia & Peter Licht, Artery Fused Glass

Doug & Anne Johnson, Johnson's Mill

Diane Culver, YLime Beads

Lexi Culver, Lexcollexion

James G. Thomas, Red Horse Art



About the Artist

Susan McCulley

I have always had an affinity for animals so after a recent resurgence in my desire to create artwork, it has been no surprise that wildlife consistently emerges as the main theme for my drawings. Although I can find interest in just about anything, animals are by far my favorite subject matter. I feel there is little else that can compare to the natural, honest energy given off by an animal, be it a family pet or one never meant to be touched by human hands. If we are lucky enough to be included as part of their world, whether for years or just a few moments, we are that much richer for the experience.

Although art classes while in college allowed me to experiment in mediums such as oil and printmaking, I am primarily self-taught at my current medium of choice, the pencil. Although slightly unconventional, I enjoy partnering the smoothness of graphite along with the rich blackness of charcoal for contrasting effects.

This is her fourth year exhibiting at Nature Calls.

Susan McCulley
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About the Artist

Jana Sawin-Peterson Autumn Prairie Designs

Jana Peterson was born and raised on a farm near the Loess Hills by conservation-minded parents. Beginning at a young age, she and her family spent hours fishing, hiking, rock hunting, gardening and creating arts and crafts. Even as a child, Jana's projects were crafted by thinking "outside the box." Jana has a passion for rocks and continually searches for treasures along the river, in gravel pits—anyplace one can find unusual rocks and agates. She and her dad cut and polished the agates and started the foundation of her collections and jewelry interest.

After a few different traditional business careers Jana moved back to western Iowa and became an apprentice jeweler. Several years of repairing, sizing and setting of gem stones in traditional jewelry have again given way to creating "outside the box."

Jana's jewelry is made of precious and semi-precious stones and "just plain rocks with soul." She believes that all the earth's natural resources are precious and receives her inspiration for her artwork from nature.

Jana now lives on one of her family's century farms with her husband Craig and daughter Autumn, who is the seventh generation to live there. Her family is extremely supportive and always willing to go for a walk to enjoy the outdoors and search for precious treasures.

Jana Sawin-Peterson
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About the Artist
J Mark Lary
Second Chance Woods

J Mark Lary is an artist from Sioux, Iowa.

He salvages and recycles wood, turning it into bowls, hollow forms, salt & pepper mills, and turned ornaments.

He is inspired by the shapes, color and texture of nature. Working with wood is something he has done most of his life; working in the home building industry, and in a custom cabinet shop.

Now in woodturning he looks at salvaged wood as the medium for turning, bringing out the colors and grains that are present but never seen by most people in a forum that is pleasing to the naked eye.

His work is unique in the way that nature has spent 100 in the making, to salvage it from the fireplace or a landfill to survive, and have another purpose that is pleasing to the eye.

He has never trained as a formal artist. At times he struggles with getting things the way he would like. He is looking for inspiration from other forums of art. He's not sure where this path will take him, but he is looking forward to the journey.

This is his sixth time to participate in Nature Calls.

J. Mark Lary
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About the Artist

Julia & Peter Licht Artery

Julia grew up in Sioux City surrounded by a family of artists. Her father painted and many members of his family painted as well. Her family traveled extensively, visiting museums and art galleries all over the US. Through these experiences she learned to appreciate all forms of art.

Three dimensional art has always been a favorite of hers, as an adult she started doing stained glass windows and lamps. Her fascination with glass then moved to fusing glass. She still works with a combination of stained and fused glass. She creates detailed and unique designs in her bowls using various methods, including the “boiling” technique.

Julia is married to Peter who is also an artist. His medium is clay and he also helps out with design and patterns. They have three children Jacob, Emily and Michael. There is never a dull moment at home.

They have participated in Nature Calls for several years.

Julia & Peter Licht
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About the Artists

Doug W. Johnson Anne Johnson & Lee Johnson Johnson's Mill

Doug Johnson creates natural slab furniture, fine wood furniture and wood crafts. His source of inspiration includes both historical styles and Live-Edge Wood.

His hometown is Sioux City. Ann and Lee both were born in Fort Collins, CO.

Doug received his BS degree in Construction Engineering from Iowa State University. Anne has a BA in Photography at Morningside and Lee has a BS in Mechanical Engineering and a MA in Education at Iowa State University.

They are 4th and 5th Generation Woodworkers and Builders.

This is their fourth time to participate in Nature Calls.

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About the Artists

Diane Culver

Ylime Beads

Diane Culver is an artist from Dakota Dunes, SD.

She is a retired second grade teacher.

As a hobby, she started making bracelets and found it very therapeutic. The proceeds she makes from her beaded wrap bracelets and leather bracelets she donates to charity.

She and her husband Keith have two daughters, Emily & Lexi.

This is her third time to participate in Nature Calls.

Diane Culver

Ylime Beads

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About the Artists

Lexi Culver

Lexcollexion

Lexi Culver is an Iowa native who is currently an undergraduate at Wayne State College. There, she studies Studio Art with a minor in Merchandising and Interior Design. Being a student, she has worked thoroughly in all mediums, but hasn't picked one to concentrate on. However, she believes her strengths are in printmaking, painting and pottery. Most of her artwork revolves around nature and the human form, or the two subjects combined. Lexi grew up next to a prairie where she spent a lot of her free time and is continuously inspired by the natural environment around her. Expression through the human form is something she has been passionate about since her beginning drawing classes at WSC, and believes the viewers can have a certain reaction within themselves while looking at artwork involving the human form. When it comes to her work, she focuses on aesthetics, craftsmanship and pure intuition. This is her second Nature Calls.

Lexi Culver

Lexcollexion

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Dakota Dunes, SD 57049

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About the Artists

James G. Thomas
Red Horse Art

James G. Thomas of Red Horse Art specializes in Lichtenberg and woodworking designs.

James grew up in Hornick, Iowa. He gets his inspiration from natural and intriguing designs replicating nature.

His is a veteran-owned business focusing on unusual designs.

This is his first time to participate in Nature Calls.

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