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For more information, contact Amy Schmidt, ND Council on the Arts, (701) 328-7594

NDCA announces North Dakota artist’s works on exhibit at the Capitol

NDCA, along with the offices of State Treasurer Kelly Schmidt, and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, are exhibiting the works of Buchanan artist Brad Bohl at the Capitol Building in Bismarck during the months of April, May and June. Bohl’s work are on display in the Treasurer’s third floor office, and the Attorney General’s first floor office.

Artists looking to represent their region with art work placed in the Capitol can submit a brief resume along with links to their work to the NDCA, 1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 6, Bismarck, ND 58503. Artists are selected for quarterly display.

Bohl grew up in the Woodworth area on the farm enjoying the outdoors, hunting, fishing, and baseball. He has always enjoyed drawing, carving, and using his imagination. Bohl’s family didn’t grow up watching TV so his dad would tell stories while sketching them out as he spoke. The family would then draw their own story versions as well.

Brad did not have any formal art training until he attended college in Lincoln, NE. Interestingly he started college with a Pre-Med double major in Biology and Chemistry - he was destined to become a doctor, or so he thought. After a couple weeks of classes, he found himself disinterested in the course his life was taking. After much thought, he decided to change his major. He loved the art classes and the new course of his life.

After that he took art and sculpture classes at Jamestown College. When Brad married his wife Tara, he didn’t continue with college, but started working instead. He kept painting in oils and watercolors and sold some now and then. It was a hobby that was more therapy than anything else.

Having children slowed his time to work on his fine art, but he and his brother started their own business, known as Bohl Iron Works, creating a different form of art; building and sculpting with steel. It was a good fit to continue to express himself artistically, while still making a living. Now that his children are a little older, he has more time to dedicate to his original passion of drawing and painting.

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The North Dakota Council on the Arts is the state agency responsible for the support and development of the arts throughout North Dakota, and is funded by the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts.