



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

NDCA announces North Dakota artists work on exhibit at the Capitol

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA), along with the offices of State Treasurer Kelly Schmidt, State Auditor's office, and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, as well as Governor Burgum, are exhibiting the works of Bismarck artist Donna Cristy and Taylor artist Beverly Haas at the Capitol Building in Bismarck during the months of April, May and June. Cristy's works are on display in the Treasurer's third floor office, and the Attorney General's first floor office. Haas' works are on display in the Auditor's third floor office, and the Governor's Staff Offices on the ground floor*.

Donna Cristy

Lubbock, Texas born and raised, Donna Cristy followed her husband to Bismarck over five years ago and has thoroughly enjoyed embracing and soaking in the North Dakota culture. Donna is a nurse practitioner in Women's Health at Sanford, where her husband Kirk also is employed.

Donna is an artist, self-taught in oils. She primarily produces vibrant colorful landscapes that have caught the attention of many including The Capital Gallery. She had a very successful first showing at The Capital Gallery May – June 2018 in the "Spring Back Exhibition". Donna says "I love color. Saturated and brilliant color". She especially enjoys using the palette knife. "My favorite method to applying the paint to the canvas is by palette knife. The texture and magic that the knife creates right on the canvas is thrilling to me. Some of the best things that occur are happy accidents." Donna feels fortunate to have been mentored by successful artists including Dreama Tolle Perry, Wilson Bickford and Gayle Levee.

Donna states she is honored to have this opportunity to exhibit her art at her adopted home's State Capitol. She serves as a role model for others who find joy in art later in life. It was not until her youngest child left home for college that Donna purchased supplies and setup a makeshift studio in a bedroom. She immersed herself into creativity and sought opportunities to learn from others who went before her. Proud of her status of mother, grandmother and nurse practitioner, she is now pleased to be also known as "Donna Cristy-Artist."

Beverly Lloyd Haas

Beverly Lloyd Haas is a product of the North Dakota prairie. Her father encouraged her to observe the colors and shapes of nature and to understand the structure of the buildings made by the early pioneers using the materials that were available. She developed a deep understanding of the aesthetic beauty of the prairie with its broad expanse and magnificent skies. Bev longed to enroll in art classes, but none were offered in her small country school or her local high school. Albert Bean, a family friend, taught her to draw and the local blacksmith, Pop Reed, gave her helpful lessons on oil painting.

She went on to receive her Consumer Education Degree and taught consumer education, physical education and

1600 E. Century Ave., Suite 6

Phone: (701) 328-7590

www.nd.gov/arts

Bismarck, ND 58503-0649

Fax: (701) 328-7595

comserv@nd.gov

art for twenty-one years. She organized and directed the Dickinson 'Art for Kids' Program for eleven consecutive summers. She taught art classes in the Adult Education Program in Dickinson. She was also a co-founder of the Assumption Abbey Prairie Arts Council.

Beverly is married to C.B. "Buck" Haas of Taylor, North Dakota; her served as a Legislator from 1998-2008.

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.

**To view Haas' works in the Governor's Staff Offices on the ground floor please contact Steph Hauge at (701) 328-2219 or via email at sahauge@nd.gov.*

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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.