

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

The North Dakota Council on the Arts (NDCA), along with the offices of Governor Doug Burgum, First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum, and Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, are exhibiting the works of Bismarck artist Nicole Gagner, at the Capitol Building in Bismarck during the months of January, February and March 2017. Gagner's work is on display in the Governor's ground floor and first floor offices, the First Lady's fourth floor office, and the Attorney General's first floor office.

Artists looking to have their artwork displayed in the Capitol can submit a brief resume along with photographs of their work to the North Dakota Council on the Arts, 1600 East Century Avenue, Suite 6, Bismarck, ND 58503. Artists are selected for quarterly display.

Nicole Gagner is an artist living and working in Bismarck, North Dakota. She studied in Augusta, Georgia under Tom Nakashima and in Italy under Janice Whiting, receiving a Bachelor in Fine Arts from Augusta State University (now Georgia Regents University). She has exhibited extensively in Georgia, along with group shows in South Carolina and California, and continues to be a member of the local Bismarck art community as a supporting member of the Bismarck Downtown Artist Cooperative and an artist member of the Bismarck Art Gallery Association. Nicole is an art instructor at Theo Art School in Bismarck and is on the teaching artist roster for the Artist in Residence program though the NDCA.

Nicole currently works in a variety of 2-dimensional media, including oils, acrylics and watercolor on canvas or paper. Her art deals with nostalgia and the preservation of fleeting moments, using exaggeration of color and a heavy, rich brush strokes. Her subjects range from the changing landscape and skyscapes surrounding her in North Dakota to visual chronicles of her gardening and pantry misadventures. Nicole's "Stocked Pantry" was chosen to be included in the Bismarck Art Alley Mural, completed in October of 2016. In summer of 2016 Nicole was the Artist in Residence for Turtle River State Park. In September, 2015 and January, 2016 she participated in a nationwide "30 paintings in 30 days" challenge, and she will have a solo show touring North Dakota in spring and summer of 2017 in association with the North Dakota Art Gallery Association. To contact or learn more about Nicole, visit <a href="http://nicolegagner.wix.com/artwork">http://nicolegagner.wix.com/artwork</a>.

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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.

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