



Nancy L. Cozart

Nancy L. Cozart is an artist who explores media, composition, realism, and abstract qualities in visual works that often express movement. Her current work primarily includes 2-D forms combined with pencil, prismacolor, and stenciling. Other work by Cozart includes images drawn directly on wood fired pots as well as sculptural embellishments on wheel thrown pottery.

Nancy began her interest in art when a fifth grade teacher encouraged her to use her skills by enhancing the content of class projects with hand drawn illustrations. Her mother also introduced her to the Virginia Museum in the 1960's by enrolling her in Saturday morning art classes. She recalls being intrigued by the diverse methods each classmate used when creating with similar materials while studying similar subjects.

A native of Virginia and raised in western Henrico County, Nancy was exposed to creeks, farmland, animals, birds, plants, and wildlife. The environment was stimulating and became sources of inspiration for small childhood sketches. Weekend trips to the "river" with her parents and fishing from her father's boat on the on the Mobjack Bay sparked an interest in natural environments where aquatic life could be clearly seen or obscured by cast shadows and sparkling sunlight dancing on a moving tide. Wondering what the small and large creatures must be doing beneath those waters still adds to the thought process as she composes her mixed media fish images.

Nancy graduated from Meredith College in Raleigh, NC in 1972 with a major in art and certification in art education. She secured her first teaching job as an art educator in Hanover Co. in 1973. In 1980, she completed her Master of Art Education studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. Over the course of her teaching career, she was a member the of VA Art Education Association, attended workshops and classes taught by career art educators, working artists, experienced potters, and photographers. These individuals were real life mentors, sharing skills and techniques that enhanced her classroom expertise as an art educator and curriculum specialist in Hanover County Public Schools. Nancy believes this support continues today through JRAL, friends, and artists who continue to inspire in the 2020's!