

Mississippi Art Education Association
Fall Conference 2025



November 13-15, 2025

**Mississippi Museum of Art
and
Mississippi College Department of Art
Gore Arts Complex**

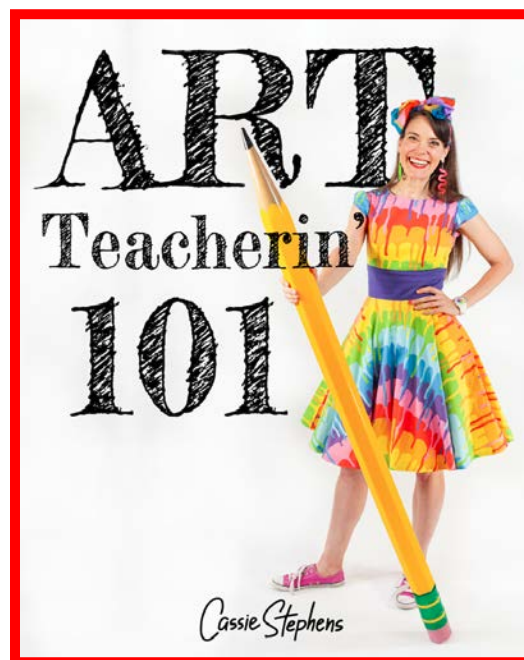
Friday Keynote Speaker: Cassie Stephens



Bio: After spending entirely too long at Indiana University getting her degree in both painting and art education, Cassie Stephens did her student teaching in the magical land of Ireland. While she was away, her parents, fully aware of her slacker ways, sent out 52 art teacherin' job applications to such far away places as Alaska. One such place that called her for an interview was Nashville, Tennessee. On a whim, she loaded up her jean-jumpers, resume and chain-smoking grandma to make the trip to

Nashville where she landed her first teaching gig. Fast forward over 25 years and Cassie has settled down with her husband and their three cats. Since 2012, she's been sharing her lessons, creative endeavors and wild and wacky outfits on her blog...which is how she managed to meet and connect with so many amazing and inspiring art educators just like you. After teaching elementary art for 25 years, she's since stepped away from the classroom to continue to share her tips, tricks and techniques in the form of books and videos. You can learn more about what she's got to offer over at

CassieStephens.com.



Saturday Keynote Speaker: Ginger Williams Cook



Ginger Williams Cook is a painter, published illustrator, and arts educator in Jackson, Mississippi. Her work has been featured internationally in art exhibitions, publications, and brand packaging. She cultivated a passion for teaching art as the former Studio Programs Coordinator and Master Teaching Artist at the Mississippi Museum of Art. She won the Outstanding Museum Art Educator of the Year award in 2012 from MAEA. During her role at the museum, she taught after-school art at Operation Shoestring and Brown Elementary. Ginger also completed two Ask For More Arts residencies, culminating in an art exhibit for the families and community within JPS.

Nurturing a daily creative practice inspires her to motivate others to connect with an authentic exploration of ideas and art techniques in immersive workshops.

In 2023, Ginger's paintings were exhibited at Ferrara Showman Gallery in New Orleans as a jury-selected finalist and subsequently grand prize award recipient of the 27th Annual No Dead Artists International Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Art. Her solo exhibition and gallery premiere, *Abundance of Apollo: The Celestial Gods, Goddesses, and Heroes of Greek Mythology*, opened in January 2025. She is currently working on a series of paintings that will show in the gallery in early 2026. Ginger's art studio is in the Historic Fondren District in Jackson, MS. She loves spending time with her husband Justin, kids Eloise and Oliver, and pets Norman and Penny.



Professional Development in the Studio

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Mississippi Museum of Art & Pearl River Glass Conservatory

This year we are offering five all-day studio concentrations. Each of these sessions will last five hours on Thursday and will cost \$75 which includes all supplies. You must register for the conference in order to enroll and attend one of these workshops.

Intro to Needle Felting with Cassie Stephens

Cassie began exploring the art of needle felting ten years ago. Since then, she's created an entire wardrobe of needle-felted wears from her Mondrian coat to her The Scream dress to her light-up Starry Night ensemble. Needle felting is similar to painting but with wool roving as your medium.

In this workshop, Cassie will share ways for you to explore this medium both in and out of your art room. Feel free to bring an old sweater or garment that you'd like to use as your needle felted 'canvas'. Or create a needle felted paint palette clip for your apron or your hair! At the end of this workshop, you'll not only learn the art of needle felting but have created your own wearable work of art!

Limit 25 Participants.



Energetic Mark Making with Ginger Williams Cook: How to silence your inner critic and activate the right side of the brain

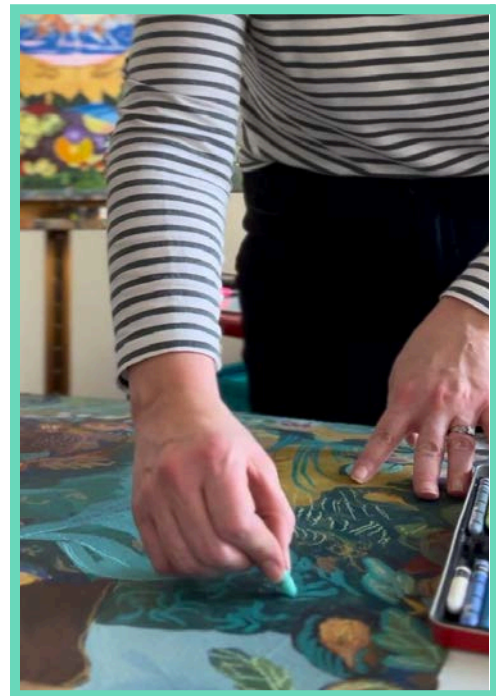


Perfectionism, comparison, and rigidity can stagnate a creative practice. This workshop will focus on the importance of cultivating experimental warm-ups in response to the core attitudes of mindfulness. It will involve tactile movement through non-judgment, patience, a beginner's mind, trust, non-striving, acceptance, and letting go. These attitudes are essential for a successful mindfulness practice, as they help cultivate an impartial,

curious, and present-moment awareness, allowing one to observe experiences without resistance or attachment to specific outcomes.

The right side of the brain is the source of creativity, imagination, and spatial reasoning. Art produced from a place of curiosity, spontaneity, and joy is magnetic. This workshop will utilize a variety of drawing materials to explore different styles and mark making techniques centered on observation and perception, embracing non-linear thinking, and enhancing spatial awareness.

Limit 25 Participants.



Quick & Dirty Figurative Bust Sculpting with Christian Bailey



In this workshop, Christian Bailey will lead participants through his process of using a paper armature and soft slabs for sculpting human/animal hybrid figurative busts. You will be guided in how to construct your armature, apply slabs, and sculpt your creature using handbuilding techniques. **Limit 12 participants.**



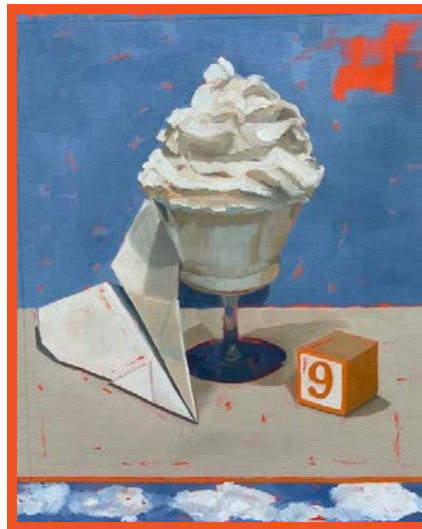
Christian Bailey is a husband, a cat dad, an award-winning artist, and art teacher living on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He earned a BFA in sculpture and a Master's of Education from the University of Southern Mississippi. This is his 19th year as a high school art teacher, teaching art 1, 2, 3, 4, Advanced Placement Studio Art, and ceramics. He is a reader for the College Board AP Studio Art Portfolio. And was the 2024/25 Teacher of the Year for the Harrison County School District. In addition to being a high school art teacher, he maintains a robust studio practice that continuously pushes his boundaries of what clay can do in art. Workshops on clay sculpture, surface decoration techniques for pottery, glaze mixing, and how to use art in the classroom, round out the rest of his days. He has had a series of solo and group shows around the southeast. Most notably Columbus Arts Council, Hinds Community College, Pearl River Community College, Jones County Junior College, Florida State College of Jacksonville, the Mary C. Cultural Center, and Ohr O'Keefe Museum of Art. He was selected to show at ArtFields for 2023 and 2024. He has been awarded numerous grants for his work and was a fellowship awardee for 2024 from the Mississippi Arts Commission for his work in sculpture.



Idiom on the Wall/Intro to Oil Painting with Stacey Underwood



Take the mystery out of oil painting by refreshing your memory on how to mix and use oil paints. This workshop is for those who don't use oil paints on a regular basis. You will be reminded how to mix colors and mediums using a limited palette...but there will be other pigments available in case you want to get crazy! Our subject matter will take a cue from local painter Stacy Underwood's current body of work that depicts the idioms we use every day as visual images...think "apples to oranges" (which will be provided should you not want to bring in your own inspirational idiom object). You will leave with a conversational piece for sure! (Odorless Gamsol will be used to thin and clean brushes.) **Limit 20 Participants.**



Stacy Underwood lives and works in Jackson. She works primarily in oils and prefers painting portraits

(the one thing she detested most in college). Stacy got her B.A. from the University of Mississippi and has continued her training by attending workshops such as the one she is teaching. Seventeen years ago she founded HeARTWorks, an art program at Stewpot, Mississippi's largest shelter for the unhoused. It is largely because of her dedication to this community that she was awarded MAEA's Prism Award 10 years ago. Her latest body of work depicting idioms will be on display at the Museum of the Mississippi Delta beginning in November. Stacy's work has been included in the MMA's Mississippi Invitational and is currently represented by Fischer Galleries in Ridgeland.



Fused Glass with Pearl River Glass Conservatory



Back by popular demand, Pearl River Glass Conservatory will offer a concentration in their conservatory studios in Midtown Jackson. Participants will learn about fused glass, gain skills to cut and assemble glass, and create multiple items, such as fused glass tiles and garden stakes to keep.

Limit 20 participants.





Registration Information

MAEA Fall Conference fees include Friday and Saturday sessions, art supplies needed for the sessions, conference t-shirt or tote bag, coffee and muffins Friday morning, dinner Friday evening at the awards event, and lunch on Saturday. The Thursday studio master classes are an additional \$75 which includes some needed art supplies available for use.

All sessions are specifically geared to help Visual Arts teachers strengthen their teaching practices and show connections to the Mississippi Visual Arts Standards as well as give teachers opportunities to reflect, problem solve, and share new ideas and experiences. Up to 2 CEUs or 20 contact hours are available during this professional development conference.

Conference Ticket Prices:

- Active Member: \$155
- Retired Member: \$135
- Student Member: \$95
- Non-Member: \$195
- Late Registration: \$20 added after October 15
- Thursday Studio Master Artist PD Workshops: \$75

Regular registration ends October 15. All registration fees must be paid before session choices can be made. You can receive a full (minus processing fees) refund until October 31. No refunds beginning November 1 when t-shirts, supplies, and food are ordered. Register early to ensure a spot in the Thursday Studio Art Concentration of your choice. Registration links will be emailed and posted on the MAEA Facebook page and website when available.

Attendees get a choice of a t-shirt or a tote bag with registration.

Conference Schedule

Thursday, November 13, 2025 Mississippi Museum of Art & Pearl River Glass Conservatory		
Time	Event	Location
9:00-9:30	Registration Turn in 3X5 Artwork	MMA & PRGC
9:30 – 11:30	Needle Felting Workshop Figurative Sculpting Workshop Oil Painting Workshop Energetic Markmaking Workshop Fused Glass Workshop	MMA & PRGC
11:30-1:00	Lunch On Your Own	Jackson restaurants
1:00- 4:00	Needle Felting Workshop Figurative Sculpting Workshop Oil Painting Workshop Energetic Markmaking Workshop Fused Glass Workshop	MMA & PRGC
4:30-5:30	MAEA Board of Directors and Officers Meeting	TBD
6:00	Division Dinners	Jackson restaurants
Friday, November 14, 2025 Mississippi Museum of Art		
7:15-8:00	Registration and Welcome Reception with coffee and breakfast sweets Turn in 3X5 Artwork	MMA
8:00-8:30	MAEA Fall Conference Overview MMA Opportunities-Merry Barnes Info from MMA gift shop Door Prizes	MMA
8:45-9:45	Morning Session	MMA
10:00-11:00	Friday Keynote Speaker - Cassie Stephens Door Prizes	MMA
11:00-12:15	Lunch on your own	Jackson restaurants
12:15-4:30	Afternoon Sessions	MMA



**Dinner & Awards Ceremony
Friday Evening, November 14, 2025
Duling Hall**

6:00-8:00 pm	<p style="text-align: center;">Doors Open at 6:00 5:45 pm Award Recipients Photos</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6:00-7:00 pm Food, Fun, & Fellowship Art Activities Costume Contest</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7:00 pm MAEA Awards 7:30 pm 3 X 5 Exhibition and Judging (Cost Included in Conference Registration)</p>	<p>Duling Hall 622 Duling Ave Suite 206, Jackson, MS 39206</p>
---------------------	---	--

Saturday, November 15, 2025

Mississippi College

Time	Event	Location
7:30-8:00	Registration	Mississippi College Gore Arts Complex (GAC)
8:00-10:50	Studio Super Sessions: 3 Hour class	MC GAC
11:00-11:30	Lunch and Learn Opportunities: (lunch included in conference registration)	MC GAC
11:35-12:00	General Session Reports from Officers Door Prizes	MC GAC
12:00-1:00	Saturday Keynote Speaker: Ginger Williams Cook Door Prizes	MC GAC
1:05- 5:00	Afternoon Sessions	MC GAC

Friday and Saturday Session choices will become available in October. You must be fully paid to be able to pick your sessions.

Teacher Art Show 3 X 5 Exhibition

This year's 3" X 5" exhibition must fit the size requirements, but can be any subject matter or media.

A cash prize for the Juror's choice and People's choice awards will be presented Saturday. Members must pick up their work before they leave on Saturday.

People's Choice
Issac White



Juror's Choice
Geoff Latham



Honorable Mention
Alanna Lawrence



3 X 5 Member Exhibition Entry

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Title: _____

Media: _____

Price: _____

You must pick up your work before you leave on Saturday, November 15.
We are not responsible for works left at the conference.