

Eric J. Frey

Selected Works

2011-2020

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Eric J. Frey

I am an Intermedia artist, an enigmatic creative, attempting to make sense of the world I have experienced. I focus on memories and experiences (not all my own) to generate my ideas. Most of my artistic practice is expressed through sculptures, photographs, and archives, yet I will use whichever medium works best for me to communicate my idea at the time. My practice has evolved over time. In the Army, I curated my space in barracks and offices in defiance of typical military neat and orderly traditions. I designed coins and shirts for the units I was with, while also developing my photographic and writing skills. After I retired from the Army, I transformed my desire to curate and create into becoming a professional artist.

My military experience was as diverse as my art practice. Throughout my 24 years in uniform, I served in combat and peacekeeping zones, worked in 6 countries, traveled to an additional 7 countries (and 5 more after retirement), trained in 6 different Military Occupational Specialties with the latter half of my career focused on Supply and Logistics. I worked my way up the ranks from a Private, that was not allowed to think for myself, to a Master Sergeant that was responsible for supporting over 3,500 troops. That part of my life did leave me a bit damaged, but I use those experiences including traumas (with some help from my amazing Service Dog Nia), to fuel my varied art practice.

My interdisciplinary approach utilizes the skills, disciplines and experiences developed in my time in the U.S. Army, while exploring the freedom of creativity being an Intermedia Artist affords. Each new artwork or project usually starts with me going through my archives of images, documents, mementos, or memories accumulated throughout my life. I use my experiences and reconstructed memories to create either new objects or new presentations of existing objects as key elements in my artwork. By using my own experiences and memories as the foundation, I build bridges between myself and an audience. I try to leave room for the audience to come to their own conclusions on the meaning of the work, though sometimes my artwork or my titles are pretty blunt and straight-forward— after all I am an enigma.

*Contemporary definition: A transdisciplinary approach to work across a number of different and overlapping areas is central to intermedia art study. These can include sound, object making, installation, performance, publications and video. (Intermedia can also include New Media, Multi-Media, and Mixed-Media)

Monochromes

Tiber at Fiumicino
2020
15cm x 15cm
Selenium Toned Silver Gelatin on Fiber based Paper



Santa Maria Nuova
2020
15cm x 15cm
Digital Print





View from a Cobblestone
2020
10cm x 15cm
Digital Negative, Silver Gelatin Print



Stop War
2016
16"x20"
Digital Print



Decisions
2013
10"x15"
Digital Print



Desperation
2011
16"x20"
Digital Print

Color

Pelican Stretching
2013
16"x20"
Digital Print





Walking at f/22
2020
10"x16"
Digital Print

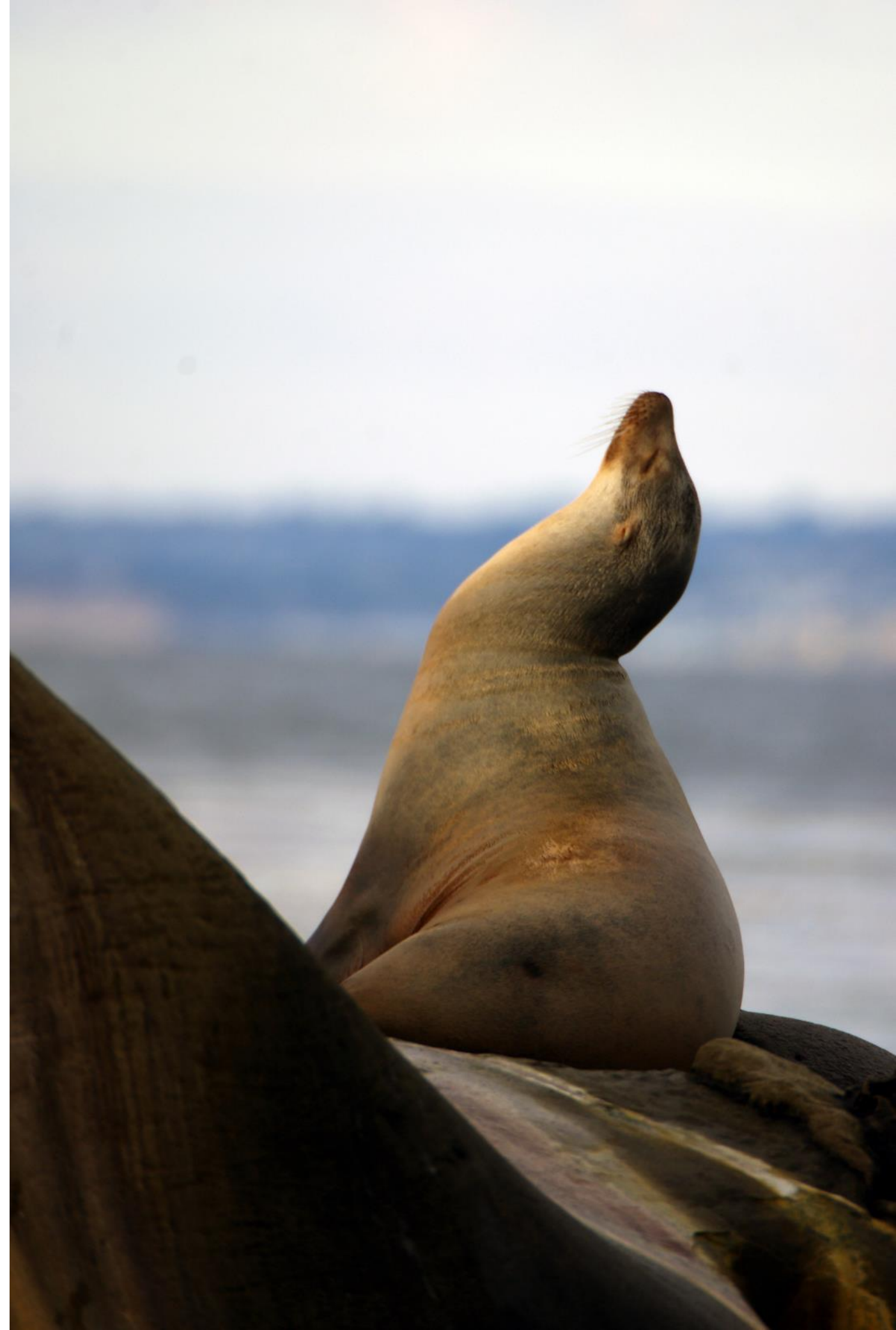


Carabinieri at BLM Protest
2020
10"x16"
Digital Print



Zeg Kaas (Say Cheese)
2016
16"x20"
Digital Print

Sun Worshiper
2013
16"x20"
Digital Print





Shadows of Time
2011
16"x20"
Digital Print
Public Collection, Joshua Tree National Park

Photojournalism

41st Brigade Soldier performing Close Quarters Drills
2014
16"x20"
Digital Print





*Patriot Prayer leader Joey Gibson
faces protesters at Western Oregon
University
2019
10"x16"
Digital Print*

*Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)
conducts Town Hall meeting at
Western Oregon University
2018
10"x16"
Digital Print*





*Total Solar Eclipse immersed Polk
County Oregon into darkness
2017
10"x16"
Digital Print*

*Actor Channing Tatum trains with K9 dogs at
New Kabul Compound, Kabul, Afghanistan
2015
10"x16"
Digital Print*





*1st Squadron, 82nd Cavalry Regiment
conducts TOW Missile training near
Boise, Idaho
2013
10"x16"
Digital Print*

Curriculum Vitae

Education

2021 MFA Studio Arts (Pending) Studio Arts College International (SACI), Florence, Italy

2019 BFA Art and Design, Western Oregon University (WOU), Monmouth, OR

1994 National Registry-EMT (Basic), Fayetteville Technical Community College, Fayetteville, NC

Professional Experience

2019 Art Installer, Independence Hotel, Independence Oregon

2019 Art Installer, The Dundee Hotel, Dundee, Oregon

2018-2019 Gallery Assistant & Art Preparator, WOU, Monmouth, Oregon

2016-2018 Photographer, Office of Marketing and Communication (MARCOM), WOU, Monmouth, Oregon

2014-2015 Unit Public Affairs Representative, Task Force Volunteer, Kabul, Afghanistan

2012-2014 Unit Public Affairs Representative, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Clackamas, Oregon

Military Service, Master Sergeant (Retired)

1992- 2016 US Army & Oregon Army National Guard

- Aug 2014-Apr 2015 Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan
- Aug 2011-Feb 2012 Exercise Cobra Gold 2012, Thailand
- Jul 2009-Apr 2010 Operation Iraqi Freedom, Iraq
- Jan 1995-Jun 1995 Multinational Force and Observers Sinai Peninsula, Egypt

Residencies

2020 *Chiasso Perduto*, Florence, Italy

Solo Exhibitions

2018 *The Process of Printmaking Exhibition*, Hamersley Library, WOU, OR

2018 *Soldier, Scholar, Veteran, Artist*. Werner University Center, WOU, Monmouth, OR

International Art Exhibitions

2020 SACI MFA 1st Year Virtual Exhibition, Group Exhibition, Virtual, SACI, Florence, Italy

2020 SACI End-of-Term Spring 2020 Digital Exhibition, Group Exhibition, Virtual, SACI, Florence, Italy

2019 The Collector’s Guide to the Corporeal Archive, Group Exhibition, ONART Gallery, Florence, Italy

2018 Big Ink II, Group exhibition, Bend, Oregon

National Art Exhibitions

2018 Emerald Print Exchange, Print Arts Northwest & Whiteaker Printmakers National print exchange and exhibition; Out on a Limb Gallery, Eugene, OR; Whiteaker Printmakers, Eugene, OR; Multnomah Arts Center, Portland, OR; Pacific Northwest College of Art, Portland, OR

Regional / Local Art Exhibitions

2019 WOU Award Exhibition, Group Exhibition, Bush Barn Art Center, Salem, OR

2019 Recent Graduates Exhibition, Group Exhibition, Blackfish Gallery, Portland, OR

2019 WOU BFA Graduates Exhibition, Group Exhibition, Cannon Gallery of Fine Art, Monmouth, OR

2019 51st Annual WOU Juried Student Art Exhibition, Cannon Gallery of Fine Art, Monmouth, OR

2019 Bachelor of Fine Arts Winter Show, Group Exhibition, Hamersley Library Gallery, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2019 Off The Press, Group Exhibition, Gretchen Schuette Gallery of Art, Salem, OR

2018 Bachelor of Fine Arts Fall Show, Group Exhibition, Werner University Center Gallery, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2018 RAW Artist Showcase, OVATION, Group Exhibition, Roseland Theater, Portland, OR

2018 Oregon State Fair 2018, Visual Arts, Fine Art, and Poetry exhibitions, Salem, OR

2018 Radius 25, Group Exhibition, Salem Art Association, Salem, OR

2018 50th Annual WOU Juried Student Art Exhibition, Cannon Gallery of Fine Art, Monmouth, OR

2017 Oregon State Fair 2017, Visual Arts, Fine Art exhibitions, Salem, OR

2017 Salem Salon 2017, Bush Barn Art Center, Salem, Art Association, Salem, OR

2017 Inaugural WOU Veterans Print Project, Group Exhibition, Werner University Center Gallery, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2017 49th Annual WOU Juried Student Art Exhibition, Cannon Gallery of Fine Art, Monmouth, OR

Photo Salons

2018 Oregon Salon of Photography, Salem, OR

2017 Oregon Salon of Photography, Salem, OR

2015 Oregon Salon of Photography, Salem, OR

2013 1st Greek Photographic Circuit, Salon Santorini, Santorini, Greece

2013 1st Greek Photographic Circuit, Salon Mykonos, Cyprus, Greece

2013 1st Greek Photographic Circuit, Salon Rhodes, Rhodes, Greece

2013 Circuit Exhibition of Photography “Portrait 2013”, 1st Exhibition of Photography, ‘Portrait 2013 – Vidin”, Vidin, Bulgaria

2013 Oregon Salon of Photography, Salem, OR

2012 Joshua Tree National Park Association 75th Anniversary Photo Competition, Joshua Tree National Park, Oasis Visitors Center, Twenty-nine Palms CA

2012 Fotoferia International Exhibition "The Wonder of Light", Kołobrzeg, Poland

2012 Beauty of Face and Body, Centre for Photo and Film Culture Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia

2012 “Streets” International Exhibition of Art Photography, Center for Culture Trajko Prokopiev – Kumanovo, Kumanovo, Republic of Macedonia

2012 Prvi Internacionalni Salon Fotografije ”ŽENA”, Novi Sad, Serbia

2012 8th Holland International Image Circuit, 14th Tribute to Color salon, Schouwburg Cool Kunst en Cultuur, Heerhugowaard, Netherlands

2012 “Exposed” International salon of Photography, Foto Klub Kamnik, Kamnik, Slovenia

2012 Oregon Salon of Photography, Salem, OR

2011 3rd Finland International Digital Circuit, 2nd Imagination salon, Lempäälä, Finland

2011 24th Concorso Internazionale Immagini Fotografiche "Il Mosaico", Ravenna, Italy

2011 5th International Salon of Digital Photography Celje, Metropol Cinema Theater, Celje, Slovenia

2011 1st Internacionalni Salon Fotografije Novi Sad, Novi Sad, Serbia

2011 1st International Exhibition of Photography Leskovac, Association Region and Cultural Center, Leskovac, Serbia

2011 34th Oregon Salon of Photography, Oregon State Fairgrounds, Salem, OR

Lectures, Presentations, Workshops

2020 Artist Presentation, “Virtual Open Studios” SACI Global Studios; SACI, Florence, Italy, <https://www.facebook.com/events/675598306524502/>

2019 Presenter, “Generation Z (iGen) Anthropology Project”, The Collector’s Guide to the Corporeal Archive, Group Exhibition, ONART Gallery, SACI, Florence, Italy

2019 Presenter, “#WOUBorderWall,” Interplay of Art & Science Presentations; WOU Academic Excellence Showcase, Monmouth, OR

2018 Presenter, “Art Portfolio Presentation,” Art & Design Portfolio Presentations; “Wreckreational Fishing”, Literature, Writing and Linguistics, WOU Academic Excellence Showcase, Monmouth, OR

2017 Presenter, “Street Puppets to Promote Environmental Science,” Artistic Exploration in Natural, Social and Behavioral Science, Presenter, WOU Academic Excellence Showcase, Monmouth, OR

Curatorial Work

2019 Curator, Alfred P. Maurice Retrospective, Post Humus Retrospective Exhibition, Cannon Gallery of Fine Art & Hamersly Library Gallery, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2019 Curator, 51st Annual WOU Juried Student Art Exhibition, Dan and Gail Cannon Gallery of Art, WOU, Monmouth, OR (Juror: Patricia Vázquez Gómez, Professor, Portland State University, Portland, OR)

Collaborative Projects/Participatory Art Projects

2020 Collaborating Street Artist, Street Art Sigils, Florence, Italy

2019 Artist, Generation Z (iGen) Anthropology Project, SACI, Florence, Italy

2019 Artist, #WOUBorderWall, Participatory Art Project, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2019 Veteran Coordinator, 2nd WOU Veterans Print Project, Group Exhibition, Werner University Center Gallery, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2019 Artist, #SmashingThroughStereotypes, Participatory Art Project, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2018 Artist, #WOUBorderWall, Participatory Art Project, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2018 Artist, Selfie Sculpture, Interactive Art Project, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2017 Veteran Coordinator, Inaugural WOU Veterans Print Project, Group Exhibition, Werner University Center Gallery, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2017 Co-Artist, Peoples’ Climate March PDX Street Puppets, OPAL PDX, Portland, OR (Constructed and performed in collaboration with June Wayne and Vanessa Rios-Castro)

Press And Publications

2020 Eric Frey “No” Monochrome, Human-Issue 12, Murze

2018 Eric J. Frey “The Kiss” Relief Print, “See The Light” Aquatint Print,Northwest Passage Fall edition, WOU

2018 Eric J. Frey “Volvere” Sculpture, “Fish Bones and Frying Pans” Poem, “Contemplation” Relief Print, Northwest Passage Spring edition, WOU

2018 Eric J. Frey “Grenan in Skagen, Denmark” Poem, “Wreckreational Fishing” Installation and Essay, Northwest Passage Winter edition, WOU

2018 Lisa Catto, “Q&A with Eric Frey, a Soldier, Scholar, Veteran, and Artist” WOU Stories, WOU

2018 Sam Dunaway, “Art as a Metaphor for Life” The Western Oregon Journal, WOU

2017 Eric J. Frey “Afghan Woman with Child” Monotype, “Iwakuni MCAS” Monotype, “Leaving Kabul” Multi-media Monoprint, Northwest Passage Fall edition, WOU

2017 Deborah Rezell, “Creative Arts: Sculpture Design Sequence” WOU-TV WOU

2017 Eric J. Frey “Zeg Kaas (Say Cheese)” Photograph, “Never Forget” Photograph, Northwest Passage Spring edition, WOU

2017 Michael Hjelmstad, “Legion helps Student Veterans of America fulfill its mission”, The American Legion Veterans Education Center

2014 Defense Video and Imagery Distribution, Oregon Army National Guards 1-82 Cavalry Squadron Trains Same Way They Fight With Missiles

2012 Jalayna Lagomarsino, “Oregon Army Guard units honored with Meritorious Unit Citations” Oregon Sentinel, Fall 2012 Vol. 10, Issue 4 Oregon National Guard

2012 Mike Francis, “Korean War vet medals, unit awards, Lewis-McChord PTSD recap” The Oregonian

2012 Defense Video and Imagery Distribution 41 Infantry Brigade Combat Team Honored With Meritorious Unit Citation

Art Awards

2020 COCA2020, 2nd Selection, Photography Project, Center of Contemporary Artists, Rome, Italy

2019 51st WOU Juried Student Exhibition, Monmouth, OR

•Werner University Center Serendipity Award, WOU Bookstore Awards

2019 Outstanding Student in Art History, WOU Art Department, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2019 Regional Level National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, Portland Region, Portland VA, Portland, OR

•First Place Printmaking, First Place Carving

2018 Oregon State Fair 2018, Art & Craft exhibitions, Juried Exhibition; Oregon State Fairgrounds, Salem

•Best of Division- Ceramics, First Place-Ceramic Sculpture, First Place-Hand Built Ceramics, First Place- Abstract Wood Carving, Second Place-Free Verse Poetry, Honorable Mention- 3D Fine Art

2018 50th Annual WOU Juried Student Art Exhibition, Monmouth, OR

•Best of Show Jurors Choice Award, Honorable Mention Jurors Choice Award, WOU Bookstore Awards

2018 Regional Level National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, Portland Region, Portland VA, Portland, OR

•First Place-Applied Art Mixed Media, First Place-Sculpture, First Place-Combat Art, First Place-Poetry

2017 Oregon State Fair, Juried Fine Art Exhibition, Salem, OR

•Third Place Award-Sculpture

2017 49th Annual WOU Juried Student Art Exhibition, Monmouth, OR

•Third Place Jurors Choice Award, WOU Bookstore Award

Scholarships

2020 MFA Studio Arts scholarship, SACI, Florence, Italy

2019 MFA Studio Arts scholarship, SACI, Florence, Italy

2018 ASTAR Printmaking Scholarship, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2018 Twila Domine Memorial Scholarship for Creative Arts, WOU, Monmouth, OR

2017 ASTAR Sculpture Scholarship, WOU, Monmouth, OR