

Intersectional Wonder Women Art Show
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**ANNOUNCING JURORS FOR
INTERSECTIONAL WONDER WOMEN ART SHOW
INCLUDING
RVA ARTIST AND *COLORING CURLS* AUTHOR
UNICIA BUSTER
AND VCU BRAND CENTER FOUNDER
DIANE TENCH-COOK**

It's March, Women's History Month. We, a group of women determined to make a difference <https://www.wonderwomenartshow.com/team> thought it fitting to announce our Art Show, now, when women are engaged and ready. Women have faced discrimination and obstacles throughout history and we continue to face many of the same challenges

Wednesday, **May 2, 2018**, at **The Hof** in Richmond, Virginia. From **7pm to 11pm**, when we are holding an Art Exhibition celebrating the theme **Intersectional Wonder Women**.

All proceeds from ticket sales and the 20% gallery fee of each piece sold will go to Safe Harbor, a Richmond nonprofit that helps survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and sex trafficking.

Our submission period closed on February 28, and we are excited to have received a variety of work from many artists, most of whom live in the Richmond area.

Now, let me introduce you to the amazing women who will decide what goes on display and up for sale!

ART JURORS BIOS AND PHOTOS

UNICIA BUSTER

"My art is my diary opened up for the world to see. I am recreating my life's story."

Unicia Buster is an award-winning artist from Richmond. She won a Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Visual Arts Fellowship and a "Best in Show" award in the National Arts

Program. She previously worked as an art specialist at VCU Health where she assisted with managing and curating gallery exhibitions and the hospital's permanent art collection and taught arts and crafts to patients. She saw more than 800 patients per year! She previously worked for 10 years as a graphic designer for the Richmond Free Press, a local magazine created for the African-American audience. While working there, she won second and third place in the Virginia Press Association Awards advertisement category.

A professional artist for more than 18 years, Unicia has been featured on Channel 12 News, in the Richmond Times Dispatch, the Richmond Free Press, and Style Weekly and was a guest speaker at the 24th Annual Good Grief Conference in 2014, and at TEDxYouth RVA in 2017. Unicia received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Cornell University and her Master of Arts degree from George Mason University. She has exhibited in numerous cities including Washington DC; Long Island City, NY; and Rome, Italy, as well as Richmond, VA.

Unicia loves meeting new people and draws inspiration from those encounters. She has created "My Hair Naturally," a series of quilted wall hangings, photography, and paintings which celebrate the beauty of natural African-American hair; and "Life Lines," a series of echo-line drawings. Her first year-long creativity project is called Afros365. She also self-published two celebrated adult coloring books "Coloring Curls" (Nov. 2016) and "Coloring Curls 2" (Oct. 2017).



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SHANNON CASTLEMAN

Shannon Castleman is an artist/photographer, educator and mother. She is currently an adjunct professor at VCU in the Department of Photography and Film. From 2006 to 2013 she served as an assistant professor of Photography and Digital Imaging at the School of Art, Design and Media at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. From 2004 to 2006, she taught photography at Dar Al Hekma College, a women's college in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. In 2013 and 2016 she was visiting faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies at San Francisco Art Institute, leading classes to Vietnam and Cuba. A native Richmonder who spent nearly a decade helping to develop art communities abroad, Shannon brings a unique perspective and contagious enthusiasm to her work as the Founder of Oakwood Arts + P35, a nonprofit that brings the community together to engage with art through events, lecture, film screenings and more. Oakwood Arts + P35 also offers technology-based art classes and fine arts classes as well. <http://arts.vcu.edu/photofilm/people/shannon-castleman/>



ADRIA SCHARF

Adria Scharf is Executive Director of the Richmond Peace Education Center, a grassroots organization with a 38 year long history in the Richmond region. The Richmond Peace Education Center works to build a more peaceful and just Richmond region, and empowers young people to be leaders for peace and social change.

Adria has a doctorate degree in sociology and an 20-plus year-long history of community building and activism. During her 12 years as Peace Center director, she has increased the reach and impact of the Center in all areas.



DIANE COOK-TENCH

Diane Cook-Tench is the Founder of the VCU Brandcenter and Brandgoodness Consulting.

A graduate of the Minneapolis College of Art & Design, Diane's won over 100 national and international awards for her creative communications work including Clios and Lions from the Cannes Festivals. The One Club in NY recently inducted her into the Communications Hall of Fame. Diane's most proud of her two daughters.



ABOUT THE EVENT

On May 2, 2018, from 7pm to 11pm an Art Show benefiting Safe Harbor will be held at The HofGarden ("The Hof") in Richmond. Its theme is **Intersectional Wonder Women** and the show aims to encourage women to be their own superheroes. The art will celebrate all who identify as women and will represent a diversity of experience.

This exhibition aims to raise awareness and foster understanding of the challenges and obstacles that women have historically faced, also to confront the permutations of these that we encounter, today. We are intersectional in that we honor ALL experiences of womanhood. We realize that traits such as age, race, religion, sexual orientation and body-type impact our experiences. That health, ability and socioeconomics may burden or ease a woman's journey, influence her perspective, and even dictate the roles/identities she chooses and embraces, those she merely tolerates, and those she strains to transcend.

We hope to inspire everyone- but women, in particular, by highlighting the physical, intellectual or creative prowess of those who we consider to be our female "**superheroes**". The jury we have carefully selected reflects this. They are women who lead, educate, and innovate. Each one creative and resourceful, all visionaries.

20% of each art sale will go to Safe Harbor, a nonprofit agency in Henrico County that empowers survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and sex trafficking by providing them with all of the resources they need to transform their lives and forge healthy relationships.

EVENT LISTING: Intersectional Wonder Women Art Show at The Hof benefiting Safe Harbor on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 from 7pm – 11pm. With each art sale, the 20% commission goes directly to Safe Harbor. Tickets: \$10 donation at www.wonderwomenartshow.com. Questions or other inquiries: intersectionalww@gmail.com.

PRESS CONTACT

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