

Biography

I was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania but I lived in Salina, Kansas for many years before coming to Lawrence, so I consider myself a native Kansan. Currently I live and work in Lawrence, Kansas. My day job is working for the University of Kansas Continuing Education. My passion, though, is making art and most evenings and weekends you will find me in my studio, The Creative Hand Studio, which is in my home. I am married to a geographer, Tom Schmiedeler, who teaches at Washburn University. A geographer and an artist make a good team and we have enjoyed many working trips across the Midwest and in Europe exploring and studying the history and geography of these places for our individual interests.

Following is a brief summary of my artistic experience:

Professional Experience

Exhibition Designer/Registrar, Salina Art Center, Salina Kansas (1987 –1994)

Co-owner, The Upstairs Gallery, Salina, Kansas (1985-1994)

- Produced and organized fifteen exhibitions including joint venture with two artists, *Gifts of Process*, a traveling exhibition, and lectures to four colleges
- Implemented an art-hanging and decorative wall-painting service

Teaching Experience

Taught classes for 20 years in Drawing, Painting, Printing, Pastels:

- Presented six pastel workshops, including: Barton County Community College, McPherson Arts and Crafts Association, Salina Art Center
- Presented over twenty-five lectures and demonstrations to colleges, high schools and civic organizations
- Lawrence Arts Center, 1994-2004, Salina Art Center, 1987-1994
- Upstairs Gallery, 1985-1994

Selected Awards

Received over 25 awards including:

- Horizons Grant, Salina Arts Commission, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1994
- University of Kansas, Letha Churchill Walker Art Department Scholarship, 1994
- University of Kansas, Ada Bechtel Heuser, Art Department Scholarship;and Charlotte and George L. Kreeck Art Department Scholarship, 1996
- University of Kansas Academic Scholarship (2), 1995

Exhibitions

Participated in:

- 18 Solo Exhibitions
- 125 Jurored venues at regional art fairs and national exhibitions

Education

University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

B.F.A., Painting (With Distinction), 1997