Statement for the 2024 San Angelo National Ceramic Competition

Ceramics has given my hands and mind a way to explore the world. Challenge and community are what brought me to clay; sharing and growth are what keep me here.

Experimentation has been my style, humor my trademark, an interest in the human condition my guide. My inspiration comes from imagination, family, daily life.

A painting by Joshua Coffy, "Hands Off My Donut", has always delighted me. The piece I have submitted for the San Angelo Ceramic Competition is my homage in clay to Coffy's creative whimsy.

I believe the vitality of play is crucial for artistic development. My goal is to show that spirit of expression in my work.

I was born and raised in St. Louis MO. My college and grad school education were in Drama and Theatre Education. I taught creative dramatics to elementary age children in my early career. Working with youngsters reignited my interest in the visual arts and three dimensional craft. While still teaching, I joined a pottery class to learn the art of wheel throwing. That was five decades ago.

LexArt in Lexington MA and the Ceramics Program, Office of the Arts, at Harvard University in Allston MA have provided invaluable learning resources and supportive artist communities.

I am currently a Resident Artist in the Harvard Ceramic Program, specializing in one of kind hand built sculptures. In addition, I curate a biennial Massachusetts exhibit called The State of Clay. My husband and I live in Lexington MA and Barnard VT.

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