

# Shannon Willow

Visual Artist/Educator/Performer

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[www.ShannonWillowArt.com](http://www.ShannonWillowArt.com) : [www.facebook.com/Shannon-Willow-ART](https://www.facebook.com/Shannon-Willow-ART)

## EDUCATION

Ball State University, Muncie, IN, 1993 - Bachelor of Fine Arts: Graphic Design & Painting

Anderson Area Vocational Technical School, Anderson, IN, 1985-1987 - Graphic Arts

C4 Atlanta, Georgia, 2014 Ignite Business & AIM Marketing; continuing education for artist entrepreneurs

## EXPERIENCE

### Shannon Willow Art, Clarkston, GA, Artist Entrepreneur

May 1993-Present

*Award Winning Artist & Designer; Educator/Instructor; Merchant; Antique Trade Bead Expert*

- Selected to receive 2015-2016 training to design and facilitate socially engaged art projects through C4 Atlanta, funded by Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation
- Designed and completed 100 foot mural created with community to raise awareness about animal compassion in East Atlanta Village; expertise applied to facilitate corporate team building with East Atlanta Animal Clinic staff
- Hand painted logos and signage on the Clarkston Communicycle Tool Box; a traveling bicycle that educates and repairs bikes in the community of Clarkston
- Writer, illustrator and designer of a coffee table book on collecting and educating community on Venetian Glass Trade Beads experiences and history, with intention to publish in 2016
- Awarded Winner of 2014 Ideas Challenge Grant sponsored by The Community Foundation to create a Diversity Mural using art as a tool to bridge faiths and cultures
- Teaching artist at Art at the Center 2014 and 2015 at the Clarkston Community Center, teaching children "Earth Art", funded by National Endowment for the Arts which included outdoor sculptures created from natural earth objects and two murals
- Featured artist, City of Decatur 2014 Book Festival, exhibiting "Tree Book" an art installation
- Designed and facilitated a community project of painting a local organic farmer's delivery van, sponsored by Naked Juice Company
- Designed and facilitated first public art mural in Clarkston through United Way grant funding with a specialty in civic engagement in 2013
- Designed and facilitated a tree mural with 80 children at International Community School in Decatur, Georgia
- Worked closely with the city government of Clarkston to put policy into place for public art awareness and leading the public art movement in the city working with over 200 community members to create murals
- Created multiple three dimensional handmade custom logo signage for the Clarkston Community Center
- Continuously offering art classes and educating adults through various creative mediums in studio
- Award winning artist for Inman Park Festival in 2007 and festival art published in an Atlanta history book, "Atlanta, Yesterday and Today"
- Designed and created custom original art for clients, including murals, paintings, hand carved drums, custom wood designs and unique jewelry
- Designed and built unique custom wood creations such as specialty barn wood frames, large mission style furniture, elaborate chicken houses and unique wood sculptures
- Designed a series of non-traditional books using handmade paper, watercolor, wood and other mixed media
- Specializing in Venetian Glass Trade Beads, primarily 19<sup>th</sup> Century and their value and history
- Consultant on Venetian Glass Trade Beads with African Art Curator at High Museum
- Award winning artist for Mother's Day Native American, Canton Georgia in 2006
- Educate the public & raising awareness about our Earth through the creative process
- Mentored at-risk youth on assorted art projects for public display

**Aaron Appraisal Services, Atlanta, GA, Fine Art/Antiques Appraiser Assistant**

**August 2014-June 2015**

- Assist in the research and value fine art and antiques according to originality, historical time periods and quality
- Research and assist in preparation of written appraisal reports for a variety of purposes
- Evaluate and discern techniques and quality of fine art
- Photograph fine art, antiques and furniture for a variety of institutional, commercial and private clients
- Study and research styles and makers of early furniture, silver and various types of personal property

**The Drum Cafe, Scottdale, GA, Facilitator/Team Leader**

**January 2007-Present**

- International performer facilitating a non-verbal musical experience through African drums and percussion
- Team Leader responsible for coordinating production and leading a well planned, interactive show
- Liaison for Drum Café Team and client, focusing on details of show and client customized messaging to deliver maximum experience
- Using drumming as a tool to break down social and economic barriers for people of all ages

**Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN, Two/Three Dimensional Artist**

**May 1995-December 2000**

- Lead Decorator, responsible for overseeing staff to ensure completion and effectiveness of work on temporary and seasonal exhibits
- Coordinated multiple aspects of projects with internal staff and implementing designs
- Detailed final exhibits and maintained aesthetics throughout the exhibit
- Researched history to design exhibit elements according to facts and period
- Help create large scale murals for dioramas, developing two and three dimensional elements for exhibits

**Indiana State Fair Commission, Indianapolis, IN Graphic Design Manager**

**June 1995-September 1997**

- Designed and disseminated all in-house printed materials
- Edited content of all internal publications
- Liaison between departments to meet design needs of on-site staff

**Beech Street Art Guild, Indianapolis, IN, Designer & Production Artist**

**January 1993-November 1995**

- Planned and implemented various production projects
- Designed and hand cut stencils to create production style art, multiples on canvas
- Ordered supplies and materials and maintained records/databases as needed
- Conducted general office duties as assigned by supervisor and maintained all project related filing systems

**References and exhibition history available upon request**