

Cathy Ambrose Smith

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Artist Statement:

I've been an avid scavenger and collector of unique and unusual items since childhood. The idea of incorporating them into mosaics just seemed a natural way to combine my background in art with the love of collecting. I enjoy reinventing a piece of art with discarded items, as there is a history behind each treasure I find.

I've had extensive experience working with mosaics and mixed media. Over the past six years, I've participated in various local art shows; national juried shows as well as exhibited in Colonial Beach, VA. I won an award at the Fredericksburg Fine Arts Annual Show and Sale (2004) and most recently three of my pieces earned first place in their spring 2007, 2008 and 2010 events. At the 2010 Rappahannock Art League's Annual Show, I took home a Blue ribbon. Also in 2007, I was selected to create a large three dimensional fiberglass fish for the "Fintastically Fredericksburg" program which raised funds for the Rappahannock River. In 2008, I collaborated with another artist to create a large mosaic book sculpture "Art in the Pages" for the Fairfax, Virginia Library Foundation.

In addition to showing my art work, I also teach mosaic workshops in the Fredericksburg area as well as in surrounding regions.

I have a B.S. in Photography/Art from Ithaca College (1979) and a M.S. in Photojournalism from Ohio University (1982). I worked for many years as a graphic designer at the University of Mary Washington. My husband and I have lived in Fredericksburg for the past 22 years, and have raised two children.

I am a member of FCCA, CBAQ, Rappahannock Art League and SAMA (Society of American Mosaic Artists).