



Kathleen Meade

I have been an artist and maker all my life. My major influence in pursuing art was early parental and older sibling support. Growing up surrounded by art supplies, art books and trips to New York museums was the groundwork for continued art making and involvement. I believe that part of my role as an artist is to remind people of the roots and connections that we all share - that a baseline to humanity is to make and reveal - doing, seeing, touching, feeling. I also believe in giving others the skills to bring their visions forward. I have taught preschoolers through adults for over 30 years in different venues. Currently I am director and instructor of the Maine Arts Workshop in Freeport - www.maineartsworkshop.com .

I was educated at Kean University in New Jersey. Moving to Maine, I brought my abstract expressionist sensibilities to the landscape. I have spent years researching Maine Art and developing curriculum to impart the majesty and artistic heritage of this state to students of all ages, incorporating that work into the Maine Arts Workshop philosophy. My 'Legacy' series was started to help the children of lobstermen at our school realize that their heritage matters. The buoys are art that works.

As an art activist, I have worked to bring art experiences - both history and images and making - to people of all kinds. I have been a coordinator of different arts efforts since college including working in brainstorming sessions with Marshall Dodge when he was starting up the Maine Festival. I was a founding member of the UMVA and its first exhibit chair. School arts enrichment programs have been one of my favorite activities. I believe in the creative economy and what it offers communities and artists. I was just elected as the first president of the Board of Freeport Creative Arts and anticipate a productive year. I believe in encouraging the vibrancy of the arts.

Represented nationally in private collections, I was represented in a juried show in Washington, DC highlighting emerging artists. I have an ornament depicting 'Legacy' in the Smithsonian collection. I received an Honorable Mention from the WCSH annual show for a painting. In 2002, I was named the Honorable Mention art educator by the Maine Alliance for Arts Education. I also received a Sentiment from the 2002 Joint Houses of the Maine Legislature for my work in the arts. I am listed in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers and am a past recipient of the Rauschenberg Fellowship at the Lab School in Washington, DC

