

Shannon Lucas Westrum
Lives and works in Bemidji, MN USA

Formal Education

1990-1995 BS Business Admin, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, Minnesota
1992-1993 Jewelry Sales and Service, Northwest Technical College, Bemidji, MN

Select Solo Exhibitions and Presentations

- 2024 *Woods/Water: Entwined*, Two-month shared exhibition with photographer Jeremy Simonson (Park Rapids) at MacRostie Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN. Twenty-eight basketry pieces surrounded by twenty abstract landscape photos. Basketry pieces were designed to reflect the feelings of life living in the Minnesota north woods. Pieces were styled around driftwood from Lake Superior and deer antlers from Lake Bemidji, Lake Superior, the Mississippi River, and the forests of Beltrami and Clearwater counties.
- 2024 *Woods/Water: Entwined*, Two-month solo exhibition at the Armory Arts and Events Center, Park Rapids, MN. Thirty-five piece solo exhibition evoking the sights and sounds of my life living in the Minnesota north woods. Pieces were styled around driftwood from Lake Superior and deer antlers from Beltrami and Clearwater counties.
- 2020-2021 *Daily "This or That" Project*. Virtual Exhibition, starting at the first inklings of quarantine due to Covid 19, Pieces ranged from small hand-beaded jewelry to abstract basketry designed around large beaver-chewed logs. Project continued uninterrupted for 365 Days.
- 2019 *Meet the Artist*, Artist Talk at Bemidji Public Library with slideshow and presentation of body of willow basketry work created in Ireland as part of Shankill Artist Residency and Region2 Arts Council Fellowship
- 2017 *Woven Elements*, Mixed stylistic pieces featuring antler, handmade glass beads, and driftwood made of Willow and Rattan Basketry. Held at the Headwaters School of Music and Arts in Bemidji, MN
- 2014 *Basketry in the North*, Atrium Gallery, Nemeth Art Center Park Rapids, MN. Regional artist for solo exhibition in the. All displayed work was basketry and basketry sculpture using rattan reed and whitetail deer antlers.

Grants and Residencies

- 2025 McKnight Fiber Artist Fellow, Textile Center, Minneapolis, MN
One-year fellowship awarded to artists who have shown extended dedication to their practice and the fiber arts community.
- 2025 *Arts Education Grant*, Minnesota State Arts Board, St Paul, MN.
(Notified, pending contracts.) Grant Recipient from the Minnesota State

Arts Board. This project will begin in March and involves designing a piece and its pattern to teach 12 full-day cost-subsidized regional basketmaking workshops in underserved rural communities.

- 2024 *Arts Education Grant*, Minnesota State Arts Board, St Paul, MN. Grant Recipient from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the National Endowment for the Arts. This project involved designing a piece and pattern to teach 9 multi-day cost-subsidized regional basketmaking workshops in underserved rural communities.
- 2024 Region 2 Arts Council Artists Engage Communities Grant, Bemidji MN. Recipient of grant to support teaching 4 crossbody tote bag workshops. This project brought reduced cost classes to Bemidji, Bagley, Warroad, and Park Rapids, MN.
- 2023 *Creative Support for Individuals Grant*, Minnesota State Arts Board St Paul, MN. Recipient from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the National Endowment for the Arts. This project involved the creating 25 works for a solo exhibition entitled “Woods/Water: Entwined” along with teaching 6 single-day minimal-cost basketmaking workshops in underserved rural communities.
- 2021 *Creative Support for Individuals Grant*, Minnesota State Arts Board St Paul, MN. Grant recipient from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the National Endowment for the Arts. Filming of a weekly 8-hr “project day” in which I wove baskets along a theme weekly for 16 weeks. The exhibition “All in a Day’s Work” is hosted at ShannonLucasWestrum.com
- 2020 *Artists Respond: Combatting Social Isolation Grant*. Springboard for the Arts, Fergus Falls, MN. I taught 2 woven snowflake workshops via Zoom to 44 students. Social Interaction among participants was encouraged and created an opportunity for Covid-safe art sharing.
- 2108 *Shankill Castle Artist-in-Residence*, Two week residency in Shankill Castle, County Kilkenny, Ireland. Working in the studio and grounds of artist Elizabeth Cope’s medieval castle. Focus on traditional Irish weaving with willow and rush following two weeks in rural County Galway working with traditional Irish willow weavers Joe Hogan and Ciaran Hogan.
- 2018 *Region 2 Arts Council Fellowship*, Region 2 Arts Council, Bemidji, MN The Fellowship Program allowed me to accept the Shankill Artist Residency as well as develop additional weaving skill - specifically working Joe Hogan, Ciaran Hogan and Heike Kahle in their studios in Ireland.

Select Group Exhibitions

- 2018-2024 *Bemidji Area Fiber Arts Member Show*, Multi- media exhibition of fiber artists at Wild Hare Bistro and Coffeehouse, Bemidji, MN

- 2022 *Herstory, Multi-media exhibition by women artists in honor of Women's History Month, Headwaters School of Music and Arts in Bemidji, MN*
- 2019, 2024 *Little Big Show, Multi-media show of works under 12" at MacRostie Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN*
- 2018 *Shankill Arts Festival, resident artists of Shankill Castle, Paulstown, Kilkenny, Ireland*
- 2018 *Herstory, Women's History Month Exhibition, Headwaters School of Music and Arts, Bemidji, MN*
- 2017 *First Call Artist Studio Tour Artists, Watermark Arts Center, Bemidji, MN*
- 2017 *Woven North, Basketry exhibition at MacRostie Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN*
- 2014 *Our Earth, Multi-media exhibition showcasing representations of the world around us at Flow Art Space, St Paul, MN*

Teaching and Arts Related Experience

- 2010-2024 *Independent Instructor, Wildflower Design Studios/Wildflower Cottage, Bemidji, MN. Owner/Artist - Basket maker, broom maker, jewelry designer. Teaching arts and crafts to youth and adults.*
- 2024 *Broom Making Instruction for East Polk County Historical Center, Fosston, MN*
- 2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Folk School Warroad, Warroad, MN.*
- 2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Crossing Arts Alliance, Brainerd, MN.*
- 2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Red River Valley Fiber Arts Guild, Grand Forks, ND*
- 2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Lakes Area Fiber Art Guild, Breezy Point, MN*
- 2023-2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Armory Arts and Events Center, Park Rapids, MN including *Woods/Water:Entwined**
- 2023-2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Watermark Arts Center, Bemidji, MN including *Woods/Water:Entwined**
- 2020-2024 *Virtual Weaving Tutorials via YouTube @WildflowerStudios*
- 2023-2024 *Basketry Instructor in collaboration with Bagley Area Arts Collaborative, Bagley, MN for *Woods/Water:Entwined**
- 2016-2024 *Homeschool Admin and Instructor for 2 girls, Art & Soul Academy, Bemidji, MN*

- 2023 *Basketry Instructor* in collaboration with Lake of the Woods Art Guild, Baudette, MN for including *Woods/Water:Entwined*
- 2023-2024 *Basketry Instructor* in collaboration with MacRostie Arts Center, Grand Rapids, MN for including *Woods/Water:Entwined*
- 2022 Broom Making Instruction for Range Fiber Art Guild, Grand Rapids, MN
- 2021 *All in a Day's Work*. Virtual Time-Lapse project series, Bemidji, MN
- 2021 Broom Making Instruction for Beltrami County Historical Center, Bemidji, MN
- 2021 Basketry Instructor for Menahga Community Ed Fiber arts series, Menhaga MN
- 2020 Virtual (live) Basketry Instructor for Artists Respond Grant via Zoom
- 2011-2017 *Instructor*, Bemidji Community Education, Bemidji, MN. Design and plan projects as well as instructing participants in painting, basic jewelry making, wirework, beadwork, basketry, and collage.
- 2012-2016 *Owner/Artist*, Shannon's Art & Soul, Bemidji, Performing all duties in our gift shop that featured local arts and craftspeople, including workshops and instruction.
- 2010-2013 *Chairperson/Organizer/ Staff*, Opener Art Festival, Bemidji, MN. Demonstrating artist who organized and operated an annual juried fine arts and crafts sale.

Studio Tours and Arts Shows (*denotes demonstrations)

- 2023 *Literature and Arts Festival*, Northwoods Arts Council, Hackensack, MN
- 2023 **Taste of the Arts Tour*, by Belle Thalia Arts Space, Wildflower Cottage (Home studio) Bemidji, MN
- 2021-2024 **Watermark Art Festival*, by Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, MN
- 2018-2019 **Pine to Prairie Fiber Arts Tour*, By Bemidji Area Fiber Artists, Bemidji, MN
- 2017-2018 **Grand Rapids Studio Tour by MacRostie Arts Center*, Grand Rapids, MN
- 2013-2017 **First City of Arts Studio Cruise, by Watermark Arts Center and Visit Bemidji*, Bemidji, MN
- 2017 *St Paul American Craft Council Show*, by American Craft Council,
- 2017 **First Call Artist Studio Tour, Bemidji Area Studio Artists*, Bemidji, MN
- 2017 *Watermark Art Festival*, by Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, MN
- 2016-2017 **Art in Bayfront Park*, Duluth, MN
- 2014 **Park Rapids Area Art Leap*, guest artist of Nemeth Art Center

Collections

- 2023 Harlow Collection, Bemidji State University collaborative piece with ceramicist Bridget Westrum.
- 2013-2024 Private Collections including those in Nashville, TN; Phoenix, AZ; San Francisco, CA; Seattle, WA; Portland, OR; St Paul, MN; and Kilkenny, Ireland

Media

- 2024 *Westrum's woven art now featured at Armory Gallery*, interview by Robin Fish of the Park Rapids Enterprise, 1/2/2024
- 2023 *Meet Shannon Lucas-Westrum*, Staff Interview, Canvas Rebel Magazine, www.canvasrebel.com
- 2021 Fiber Artists teach intro classes at Menahga School, Staff Interview, Park Rapids Enterprise, Park Rapids, MN 12/3/2021
- 2020 *ReZume Arts Newsletter* (video) interview by Katherine Gonzales of Region 2 Arts Council, Bemidji, MN
- 2018 *Area Voices; Shannon Lucas Westrum*, interview by Katie Carter of KAXE Radio in Bemidji, MN
- 2014 *Antler Art*, Feature article by Maggie Stivers, *InBemidji* Magazine by the Bemidji Pioneer Newspaper, Bemidji, MN
- 2014 Hand-Woven Baskets, Lakeland News at Ten, Katherine Silver reporting, Lakeland Public Television, Bemidji, MN

Volunteer Experience

- 2023 Grant Review Panelist for Regional 2 Arts Council
- 2023 Grant Review Panelist for Minnesota State Arts Board
- 2021-2024 Advisor for Growing Future, Bemidji, MN
- 2019-2022 Region 2 Arts Council (Treasurer - Board of Directors)
- 2014-2015 Bemidji Sculpture Walk (Board of Directors)
- 2010-2011 Bemidji Community Arts Center (Board of Directors)
- 2010-2011 Bemidji Downtown Development Authority (Board of Directors)
- 2009-2012 Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce (Board of Directors)

Informal Arts Education

Training in Willow Basket Making, Rattan Basket Making, Collage, Wire Work, Stained & Fused Glass, Silversmithing, Ojibwe Beadwork, Leatherwork, and traditional handcrafts including needle felting, crochet, knitting, embroidery and sewing.

Memberships

- Watermark Art Center, Bemidji MN
- North House Folk School, Grand Marais, MN
- American Craft Council, St Paul, MN
- National Basketry Organization, Gloucester, MA

References

Holly Alcott - Grants Manager Region 2 Arts Council

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Others Available by Request