

CATHY ABBOTT

www.cathyabbott.com

Before dedicating herself to art full time, Cathy spent 26 years in the energy industry, beginning in public policy and moving to the private sector. She then became a United Methodist pastor for 13 years, incorporating the arts into her ministry. Cathy's passion for nature and the arts found expression in curating art shows and serving on the boards of The Nature Conservancy and several arts organizations.

EDUCATION

- 2006 Wesley Theological Seminary, MDiv
- 1976 Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government, MPP
- 1972 Swarthmore College, BA, High honors

RESIDENCIES & WORKSHOPS

- 2023 Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC
- 2022 Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC
Schweinfurth Art Center, Auburn, NY
- 2021 Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC
Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN
- 2019 Residency at the Monastery of St. Gertrude, Cottonwood, ID
Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC
- 2018 Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC

EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 *Conversations: Observing a Year*, Digital Library about a more-than-human world
Spring to Life, 311 Gallery, Raleigh, NC
Merged II, d'Art Center, Second National Exhibition of Collage and Assemblage, Norfolk, Va.
Small Works, Jag Gallery, Key West, FL
H2O: Mid-Atlantic 2021, 3rd Annual Regional Show, Award of Merit, Virginia Beach Arts Center, Virginia Beach, Va.
8th Catholic Arts Biennial, Verostko Center for the Arts, Latrobe, Pa.
Put It to the Fire: A Visual Response to Mental Health, Brentwood Arts Exchange, Brentwood, Md.
Textures, Patterns, Shapes or Forms 2021, Las Laguna Art Gallery, Laguna Beach, Ca.
Chasing Ghosts IV, Verum Ultimum Art Gallery, Portland, Or.
UnCommon Threads, San Fernando Valley Arts and Cultural Center, Encino, Ca.
- 2022 *Material: d'Art's Third Juried National Fiber Arts Exhibition*, D'Art Center, Norfolk, Va.
Black + White, Falls Church Arts Gallery, Falls Church, Va.
Potomac River Life, Athenaeum Gallery, Alexandria, Va.
Looks Good on Paper, Pyramid Atlantic, Hyattsville, Md.

Uncommon Threads, San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, San Fernando, Ca.

2023 *Genesis: The Beginnings of Creativity*, Caravan in partnership with The Jewish Art Salon of New York, online and Interchurch Center, New York City, NY.

Play: The 31st Annual Strathmore Juried Exhibition. Strathmore Hall Foundation, Bethesda, Md.

Paperworks, Site Brooklyn, online

Craft A Force in Contemporary Art, Site Brooklyn, online

Arlington Temple United Methodist Church, Rosslyn, VA

2006-13. Curated, planned, and installed numerous shows of original and reproductions of art:

Jill Romanoke: Works on paper

Jerry Klepner: Photographs

Marie Pavlicek-Wehrli: Paintings and works on paper

David Bonnell: Prints

Jim Coates: Five exhibits of Photographs:

Unless the Lord Builds the House (permanent)

The art and architecture of European Gothic Cathedrals

A Walk in the Woods—Northwest US

Scrolls of images of Ethiopian icons interspersed with scripture (joint project)

Photos of the people of Arlington Temple including photo collages

2012 *Artisphere*, Rosslyn, VA.

Worked on a team with the Rosslyn Renaissance to curate and install a photography show of old images of Arlington paired with contemporary photos by Jim Coates and others to celebrate the work of Rosslyn Renaissance

ARTS EDUCATION

2011-2016 Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center, Hyattsville, MD, Papermaking, Book Binding

2015 Introduction to the Potter's Wheel, Glen Echo Park, Washington DC

2014 Icon-Writing Workshop with Philip Davidoff, Wesley Theological Seminary 2006-2007

Studio art sessions, Arlington United Methodist Church, Arlington, Va.

Icon making in the Greek Orthodox tradition with Tom Xenakis, The Face of God with Sue Mink

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington DC

2006 Arts Practicum: The Face as Form

Creativity and the Image of God, Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Va.

2005 Historical Theology in Iconography

2004 Hebrew Bible and the Fine Arts

Arts Practicum: Stained Glass

2003 Artist as Spiritual Guide-Van Gogh

Arts Practicum: Painting

Glassell School of Art, Houston, TX (audited)

1995 Color 1

1994 Creativity

Drawing and Painting the Human Face

1993 2D Design

Drawing Fundamentals 2

1992 Drawing Fundamentals 1

ARTS BOARDS EXPERIENCE

2005-2019, *Flare Productions*, Board of Directors

Flare Productions is a not-for-profit filmmaking organization which produces artistic, deeply researched, lively and engaging films about women of power.

2011-2013, *Arlington Arts Center*, Arlington, VA, Board

Community Arts organization and education center that exhibits local and international artists

2023-Present, *Penland School of Craft*, Penland, NC, Board.

National school of craft.

WORK EXPERIENCE August 2021-May 2022

Chapel Elder, Wesley Theological Seminary.

Worked with a student committee to create worship services for the seminary.

July 2013-July 2019

District Superintendent of the Arlington District for the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Supervised 50 churches and 78 pastors.

July 2006-June 2013

Pastor, Arlington Temple United Methodist Church, Rosslyn, VA.

Participated in Leadership Arlington 2009-2010. Served on the Board of Rosslyn Renaissance (including the Executive Committee) and on the Board of Just Neighbors.

January 1996-January 2003

Through August of 2002, President of the Pipeline and Production Group of NiSource Inc., managing operating companies with more than \$400 million in operating income in 2001. Managed the interstate pipelines for NiSource and its predecessor (Columbia Energy Group) from 1996, and the exploration and production subsidiary (CNR) from late 2001. Served as a consultant August 2002 to January 2003.

April 1995-January 1996

Principal, GEM Energy Consulting Inc. With three colleagues, founded an energy consulting firm whose principal client was Columbia Energy Group.

February 1985-April 1995

Vice President at various business units of Enron Corp. (Houston, TX). Experience varied widely at Enron—from line management in both regulated and unregulated business units to a variety of staff positions in human resources, information technology, regulatory affairs, and strategic planning.

1982-1985

Vice President, Policy Analysis, Interstate Natural Gas Association of America.
Organized and directed the first Policy Analysis Department of this trade association of natural gas pipelines.

1977-1982

Director (from 1980) of a variety of analytic offices making policy recommendations on deregulation of natural gas and electricity in the Office of Policy Analysis, US Department of Energy.

1976-1977

Analyst in the Office of Planning and Evaluation, Environmental Protection Agency. Member of White House Energy Policy and Planning staff that developed President Carter's First National Energy Plan.

BOARD WORK**Board of Governors, Wesley Theological Seminary**

2019-present. Member, Finance Committee. From 2021, Vice Chair, Finance Committee.

Board of Governors, The Nature Conservancy

1999-2005. Co-Chair of Conservation Strategy Committee 2002-2004.

Member of Audit, Finance, and Government Relations and Volunteer Activities Committees. Trustee of West Virginia Chapter. 1997-2005. Emeritus since then.

Board of Directors, Resources for the Future

1997-2007. Chair of Audit Committee, Member of Executive and Investment Committees.

Board of Managers, Swarthmore College

1999-2002. Member, Ad Hoc Athletic Review Committee, Academic Affairs Committee.

Committee to Raise the Endowment, Partners in Ministry

Co-chaired an effort to raise \$1 million to endow a Protestant ministry at Swarthmore College.