



FRAMEWORK

THE DORIS ULMANN GALLERIES NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

As I'm writing this note, students across campus are preparing for final exams and the Galleries team is working hard to wrap up this year's projects and prepare for new things on the horizon. This past year has been a big one for us - we've continued our partnership with The Art Bridges Foundation, undertaken a massive effort to install nearly 200 artworks across our permanent collection galleries, and welcomed a new BereaCorps staff person and two additional labor students to our team. In the hectic fray that comes with winding down an academic semester, I've been reflecting on memories that have made 2025 - and our work at the Galleries - so special and rewarding. I'm grateful for moments that have demanded a slower pace, like reading poetry with Dr. Amrita Mishra's literature class under the Daniel Buren-inspired canopies in visiting artist Sangmi Yoo's exhibition, for example, and falling into fits of laughter with my labor students as we create content for our social media pages. I'm so thankful for the colleagues and students across departments who helped to reconstruct the home of donors Shelly and Gerry Elliott in our Masterpiece Gallery, turning a two-year curatorial dream into reality. And I feel so lucky to work at an institution that prioritizes experiential learning for our students; not only am I able to teach with artworks in the Galleries everyday, but I've also been able to travel with students in my ARH 263: Intro. to Museum Work course so we can see firsthand how museums in other regions - this year, Nashville! - curate and design exhibitions to help others see the world in new and exciting ways.

Looking ahead, many museums, including the Doris Ulmann Galleries, will be offering programs and using their collections to mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. At the same time, collecting institutions have been the focus of attack and censorship repeatedly over the past year. As we prepare to enter into a new semester, and as I and the Galleries team continue to work to ensure that the College's art collection and arts-centered programming are an integral part of the liberal arts education and overall experience of our Berean community's wellbeing, I'm mindful of the critical role that museums play in not only protecting our collective histories but ensuring that they continue to be shared and taught. We can't wait to welcome you back in 2026!

As always,
Kelsey Frady Malone, PhD



Left: Students in Dr. Kelsey Malone's ARH 263: Intro. to Museum Work class visited the Parthenon in Nashville, TN, this semester. Right: The Galleries team snaps a selfie in the Masterpiece Gallery (Top row: Cece J. (Class of 2027), Dante Stewart (Class of 2023), Janelle Bernier (Class of 2027); Bottom row: Dr. Kelsey Malone, Nova L. (Class of 2026), Allison B. (Class of 2025), and Juliana H. (Class of 2026))

GIFT OF PRINTS IS FOCUS OF 2025-2026 EXHIBITION

Shelly and Gerry Elliott have been collecting fine art prints for their home for over sixty years. Now, those prints - and their home - have made their way into the Doris Ulmann Galleries.

Shelly and Gerry Elliott began collecting prints when they married in 1960. They carefully selected their first print through a mail order catalog tied to the New York-based Association of American Artists and, as Gerry says, "It just went on from there." Since then, the Elliotts have amassed a collection of hundreds of these works on paper representing an impressive array of artistic styles, time periods, methods, processes, and techniques that they have lovingly hung en masse in their home, leaving hardly one inch of wall space bare. Shelly and Gerry have chosen to live a life surrounded by art, by what they find to be beautiful, curious, and interesting.

To date, the Elliotts have generously gifted over five hundred artworks from their personal collection to the Berea College Art Collection. On view this year, *At Home with the Elliotts: A 'Fine Art Print Collection' Before Berea College* is inspired by the Elliotts' lifelong adoration of the printmaking medium and their pursuit to intentionally create a space for themselves in this world that has enabled them to be entirely surrounded by visual art and human creativity. A project years in the making, this exhibition recreates, in part, the Elliotts' Washington, DC, home (including their big bay window, complete with the same view they see each day from their living room) to encourage visitors to consider the different ways one might seek out a life in the arts.

At Home with the Elliotts will be on view in the Masterpiece Gallery on the first floor of the Rogers-Traylor Art Building through Friday, March 13, 2026. This exhibition is generously supported by Shelly and Gerry Elliott and the William A. and Leola Piper Boyce Art Exhibition Endowment Fund, and would not have been possible without the support and contributions of colleagues across multiple programs, offices, and departments, including the Art & Art History, Computer Science, ETAD Departments, and many more.



Top and Center: Over 80 artworks are included in *At Home with the Elliotts*. Below: The Galleries team completes a favorite step in the install process - removing the blue tape once all the artworks are hung! Left to right: Juliana H., Dr. Kelsey Malone, Allison B., Nova L., and Janelle B.

ART BRIDGES LOAN & GRANT FUNDING FOR 2025-2026

The Doris Ulmann Galleries have once again partnered with The Art Bridges Foundation to host an artwork on loan for the 2025-2026 academic year. This year, Charles W. White's *Our Land* (pictured at right) is on view in our permanent collection exhibition, *All Peoples of the Earth*. White created this painting in 1951 as part of a larger series of artworks for a solo show that focused on, as Art Bridges says, "liberated visions of Black American womanhood." At the Doris Ulmann Galleries, this painting is featured in conversation alongside other artworks that speak to the themes of "Labor & Leisure," allowing us to make connections with artworks from a wide variety of cultures and places and spark conversations for our visitors - in class visits, tours, and more - that center Black womanhood, activism, the importance of representation, and the dignity of labor.



Coinciding with the loan, the Galleries were awarded a \$12,000 grant that will go towards measures to increase accessibility for all and support community-wide programming in the Spring 2026 term. Stay tuned for more details regarding a new monthly event initiative rolling out in the new year - Doris After Dark! This grant, like previous grants awarded to the Galleries through the Art Bridges partnership, is part of the Foundation's broader mission to increase access to American art and diversify the perspectives shown on museum walls around the country.



Above: Charles W. White, *Our Land*, 1951, tempera on panel, Art Bridges, AB.2020. Below: Galleries labor students Cece J. (left) and Janelle B. (center) assist Dr. Malone in unpacking the Art Bridges loan ahead of the exhibition opening in August.

THE PERIPHERAL MANUSCRIPTS PROJECT

The Berea College Art Collection is home to over a dozen European medieval manuscript pages. This year, we are participating in The Peripheral Manuscripts Project (PMP), a digitization and metadata collecting initiative organized by Indiana University in Bloomington and funded in part through a National Endowment for the Humanities grant. PMP focuses on manuscripts held at institutions across the American Midwest, paying particular attention to smaller collections that have not previously been made widely available to scholars. Art historian Elizabeth Hebbard visited the Galleries in October to begin digitizing the manuscripts in our collection. During her analysis, she determined that one manuscript (pictured here) had been incorrectly cataloged. The side of the page previously labeled as the *verso* (back side) is actually the *recto* (right or front side) - we can tell by the dirty smudges at the lower right corner, made over centuries as different readers turned the page!



WELCOME TO THE GALLERIES TEAM, DANTE!



Dante Stewart (Class of 2023) joined the Galleries team in June as the new BereaCorps Art Collection and Galleries Associate. During her time as a student, Dante majored in Art History and minored in Computer Science while working as a labor student at the Galleries and serving as a math tutor. She brings to this position a wealth of institutional knowledge about the history of the art collection and how it has been used as a teaching tool over time. In her role, Dante collaborates with faculty and staff to design experiences for students at the Galleries, whether it be a class visit for an advanced Asian Studies class or a tour focused on art as a mode of activism for the CELTS labor students. This semester, Dante has taken a lead on planning innovative and engaging programs for next year (stay tuned!) and worked to add over 100 object records to our public website to help make the collection more accessible to a broad audience.

INTERDISCIPLINARY CLASS VISITS AT THE GALLERIES

The Berea College Art Collection houses over 16,000 artworks, artifacts, and objects of material culture from around the globe that span across 5,000 years of human creativity - making it one of the most incredible resources for interdisciplinary and object-based teaching in the state of Kentucky. This semester, students in classes as wide-ranging as Appalachian Studies, Art History, English, Asian Studies, Health & Human Performance, Art, and Business have visited the Galleries to learn how to look closely at visual and material culture and to make connections between the abstract ideas they're learning about in their classes and how those might manifest in the tangible things that surround us in our everyday lives. But learning from and about visual art doesn't have to take place in a class! Labor students in the CELTS and Admissions offices also visited the Galleries to better understand the relationships between the artworks on the gallery walls and the work they carry out at their respective programs. Organized and facilitated by the Doris Ulmann Galleries staff, each visit is unique and designed in consultation with the instructor or labor supervisor, factoring in learning goals, assignment or project requirements, and a wide variety of pedagogical approaches. To learn more about class visits or reserve a visit for the Spring semester, contact Dr. Kelsey Malone (malonek2@bereda.edu) or Dante Stewart (stewartd1@bereda.edu).



FALL 2025 EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

ALL PEOPLES OF THE EARTH: SELECTIONS FROM THE BEREA COLLEGE ART COLLECTION | AUGUST 29, 2025 - MAY 1, 2026

Each academic year begins at the Galleries with a new reinstallation of *All Peoples of the Earth*, the ongoing exhibition of artworks and artifacts from the College's permanent art collection. Artworks from all around the world, representing all different types of media, are grouped in thematic arrangements that prompt visitors to think about the various ways that visual and material culture permeate our daily lives. For instance, how does art play a role in how we care for ourselves and one another ("Kinship & Care")? In what ways do images affect how we understand stories and broader cultural and societal mythologies ("Storytelling & Mythmaking")?

Featuring over 100 objects, *All Peoples of the Earth* also gives space for our viewers to engage in a collaborative, year-long artmaking project designed by our new BereaCorps Art Collection and Galleries Associate, Dante Stewart. Featured alongside paintings, prints, ceramics, and textiles in the "Abstraction & Pattern" section of the exhibition, the gallery interactive is inspired by the Appalachian tradition of weaving rag rugs. Visitors are invited to weave the provided fabric scraps (or contribute materials of their own!) into the wall-mounted netting in designs and patterns of their choosing.

Throughout the year, the Galleries' labor students are given the opportunity to make curatorial choices of their own, selecting new artworks to rotate into the exhibition so that with each visit, guests will encounter something they haven't seen before. Through this work, our labor students learn to consider important factors related to curation and exhibition design, such as the unique display and conservation needs of different types of objects, from textiles and glass to basketry and works on paper and much more. With each curatorial decision, students conduct research and argue for how and why their selected artwork supports the overarching goals of the exhibition. Assisting with exhibition curation is just one of the many, many ways labor students at the Galleries gain impactful, hands-on experience that helps them to put their knowledge of art history to practice and prepares them for careers in museum, gallery, or archival work after Berea.



FALL 2025 EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS



BEREA BUCKET LIST SEPTEMBER 4, 2025

The line was out the door at the Galleries at the start of the school year! A new initiative organized by the President's Office and aligned with the first Convo of the year, the Berea Bucket List encourages students to explore campus and discover all of the resources that make Berea special - Centers, student organizations, ensembles, collections, and more! At the Galleries, students made buttons inspired by artworks in the collection, created button designs of their own, and entered a raffle to win an exclusive, highly coveted DUG tote!

ROSEMARY MEZA-DESPLAS: A MEANDERING LINE SEPTEMBER 3 - OCTOBER 10, 2025

Rosemary Meza-DesPlas: A Meandering Line was the first of four visiting artist exhibitions hosted at the Galleries this year. New Mexico-based, Latina/Coahuiltecan artist Rosemary Meza-DesPlas creates work that utilizes human hair as the primary medium; her hand-stitched canvases and textiles seek to amplify the voices of women and their lived experiences and explore socio-cultural issues, gender-based burdens, and political agency through an intersectional feminist lens. Meza-DesPlas spoke with students and community members about these themes in her work at her artist talk (pictured at right) and she also hosted a drawing workshop for Berea students that explored the communicative properties of line.



ANNE MONDRO: TETHERED SEPTEMBER 10 - OCTOBER 17, 2025



In the Upper Traylor Gallery, *Anne Mondro: Tethered* featured a series of intricately woven wire sculptures that reflect on the complex and often conflicting emotions associated with being a caregiver and care recipient simultaneously. Drawing from the artist's personal experience as a mother and cancer survivor, Mondro processes the complex and often conflicting emotions with this experience through her making. Mondro, a studio artist, arts, health practitioner, and a professor in the University of Michigan Stamps School of Art & Design, visited the Galleries in early October to give an artist talk about the work in the show.

FALL 2025 EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

PAINTING WORKSHOP WITH BHC AND VISITING ARTIST ALICE WADDELL SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

In September, the bell hooks center welcomed visual artist Alice Gatewood Waddell to campus for an artist talk in which Waddell spoke on Black family, Black life, and Black joy. As part of her visit, Waddell (pictured standing at center with Prof. Beth Feagan) also hosted a collaborative painting workshop co-sponsored by the Doris Ulmann Galleries. Students, faculty, and staff worked together to combine mixed media, texts from hooks' writing, with painted elements by Waddell, creating a collaged artwork that will go on permanent display in the bell hooks center.



MOUNTAIN DAY OCTOBER 14, 2025



It was the fourth year participating in one of our favorite Berea College traditions: Mountain Day! As in years past, students were invited to make a button featuring an artwork from the Berea College Art Collection, spreading a little art outside the Galleries walls. We heard from so many students that making a button on Mountain Day has become one of their favorite traditions, too - we even spotted Dr. Nixon sporting her DUG button from last year! If you missed making buttons at Mountain Day, you can always grab one in the entryway next time you drop by the Galleries!

TREE WEEK PAINT PARTY WITH FORESTRY OUTREACH CENTER OCTOBER 16, 2025



As part of the campus's annual Tree Week activities, the Doris Ulmann Galleries partnered with colleagues and labor students at the Arboretum and the Forestry Outreach Center to host a painting party! Students and staff worked together to decorate raised beds that are now being used to grow tree seedlings gathered from across our campus. These young trees will eventually be given to Berea community members as a part of the College's larger goal to help expand the city's canopy.

FALL 2025 EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS



ABBEY PETERS

OCTOBER 22 - DECEMBER 5, 2025

Located in our Lower Traylor Gallery during the second half of the Fall term, *Abbey Peters: Carefully Held* presented a collection of ceramic vessels and small sculptures that explore how women offer and receive care across generations. The decorative vessels contain hidden compartments that can be opened to store and safeguard items and knowledge related to reproductive care for future generations. The smaller, pocket-sized sculptures, a new body of work by Peters, range in subject matter - from personal, to archival, to the mundane - and reference the many ways we nurture and carry others in the palms of our hands. Based in Iowa City, Peters' artistic practice blends ceramics and collected materials. She holds an MFA in Ceramics from the University of Iowa and a BFA from the University of Arkansas. Peters presented an artist talk for the community in conjunction with the exhibition opening on Wednesday, October 22.

SANGMI YOO: DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME

OCTOBER 29 - DECEMBER 5, 2025

Texas-based printmaker and multimedia artist Sangmi Yoo created a site-specific installation for her exhibition this Fall in the Upper Traylor Gallery. Born in South Korea, Yoo's work combines various digital, traditional, and post-digital printmaking techniques and considers the often-problematic cultural representations of botanical gardens. Featuring wallpaper inspired by nineteenth-century British designer William Morris and twentieth-century conceptual artist Daniel Buren, *Dream a little dream of me* addressed the colonial history tied to Indian Chintz, the trade of dyed textiles, and the widespread adoption of floral motifs in English households. Yoo, who currently serves as Professor of Art at Texas Tech University, visited campus in late October to host an artist talk for the community and a printmaking demo and workshop for Prof. Mike Litzau's printmaking students.



FALL 2025 EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

POP-UP EXHIBITION: THE STUDENT CRAFT FELLOWS OCTOBER 20-24, 2025



Each semester, Student Craft welcomes two fellows who work alongside labor students to assist with the production at Student Craft operations while also creating new bodies of work based in their areas of expertise, culminating in a pop-up show at the Galleries. This Fall, ceramics artist (and Berea alum, Class of 2023!) Elsa Black and Asheville-based designer Meredith Metz shared the Tredennick Gallery space and presented multimedia work that address themes of ephemerality (like Black's ceramic "paper" cranes, pictured right) and curiosity (such as Metz's tentacled, blobular woodworking forms that expand typical assumptions of furniture, at left).

POP-UP: JAMIE STABLER NOVEMBER 3-14, 2025

In November, Berea student Jamie Stabler (Education Studies major, class of 2027) presented a series of work in a pop-up exhibition that featured prints, installation, video, and multimedia artworks that consider the deeply personal, yet universal, experiences of processing loss and navigating grief. Stabler intended the Tredennick Gallery space to feel like a bedroom, a space that visitors felt like they could inhabit themselves.



ALUMNI HOMECOMING TOUR NOVEMBER 21, 2025

We welcomed over twenty guests for the third annual Galleries Homecoming Tour, one of our favorite events of the year! Alumni and friends of the College toured the current exhibitions with Director and Curator Dr. Kelsey Malone and shared their own memories of studying, working, and learning in the Rogers-Traylor Art Building during their time as students at Berea.

MEET OUR LABOR STUDENTS!

We asked our students, "What is your favorite memory at the Galleries from 2025?"

"I loved working on the *At Home with the Elliotts* exhibition. It displays an impressive collection of artworks, as well as an accumulation of the efforts of so many people and departments. I had a lot of fun thinking about the space as a big puzzle because we had to find the right pieces that would fit and still be cohesive. Helping the space transform into something completely different, day by day, was very exciting, and I could not wait for the final product."

- JULIANA HACK, Collections Associate, Class of 2026

"One of my favorite memories from the past year has been working on the *At Home with the Elliotts* exhibition. I was so excited when Dr. Malone said we would be replicating the Elliotts' living room inside the Masterpiece Gallery. I think that this kind of project was such a unique opportunity to be a part of."

- CECE JOHNSON, Collections Associate, Class of 2027

"I loved creating the Galleries tour Instagram reel. It was so fun to be able to make a silly idea come to life. I loved seeing other people enjoy the post too!"

- JANELLE BERNIER, Collections Associate, Class of 2027



"My favorite memory of working in the Galleries this year has been working on inventory of artworks in the permanent collection. Because our permanent art collection is so large, most of our artworks are not currently on display, and inventory has given me the opportunity to learn more about artists and artworks that aren't currently on display in the Galleries."

- NOVA LEE, Collections Associate, Class of 2026

"My favorite memory was contributing to the *reframing : women in the berea college art collection* exhibition. I was able to participate as a student in Dr. Malone's Women in Art course and as an Exhibitions Associate in the Galleries. It was a unique experience that allowed me to contribute to the show from start to finish, from choosing artworks and writing labels to painting the gallery walls and putting artworks on their pedestals."

- ALLISON BAILEY, Exhibitions Associate, Class of

2025

WHAT'S AHEAD IN SPRING 2026

KAT SPEARS: SURFACE LORE

Upper Traylor Gallery | January 21 - March 13, 2026



SARA TORGISON: SPANNED SEPARATIONS

Lower Traylor Gallery | January 28 - March 20, 2026

DISCOVER THE “DORIS AFTER DARK”

Join us next semester for a special monthly series of programs featuring visiting artist talks, curator-led tours of the Galleries, and fun, hands-on art workshops designed for visitors of all ages from the Berea community. Programs will begin at 5:00 and run through the early evening hours. These events are made possible with the support of The Art Bridges Foundation.

JAN. 28

Artist Talk with Sara Torgison & Game Night at the Galleries

FEB. 25

Curator's Talk & Portrait Painting Workshop

MARCH 11

Artist Talk with Kat Spears & Hand Printing Workshop

APRIL 8

All Peoples of the Earth Tour & Mindfulness in the Galleries

Stay tuned! More information about exhibitions and events for the next academic year will be announced in the Spring term. Follow us @DorisUlmannGalleries on Instagram or Facebook to stay informed!

