



PITT COUNTY
ARTS
COUNCIL AT
EMERGE



25
YEARS



2026

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**Thank you to the ArtZine sponsor:
Ms. Harvey Wooten**

Visit www.pittcountyarts.org for more information.
Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge
404 Evans Street · Greenville, NC 27858
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CONNECTING OUR ARTS COMMUNITY



COUNTYWIDE
**ARTS
CALENDAR**
Find all of your arts and cultural events.

www.pittcountyarts.org/events



Looking for things to do?
Here is a comprehensive calendar of
arts related events in Pitt County!
pittcountyarts.org/events



ARTIST DIRECTORY
Register yourself as an artist in Pitt County



The Artist Directory of Pitt County showcases
the creative talent of all the arts disciplines
in our area. It is also a great tool for artistic
promotion and networking opportunities.

Add yourself today!
pittcountyarts.org/artists/artist-directory

A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

To our Pitt County Community:

As I reflect on this past year, I am reminded of the many meaningful milestones it has brought. In December, I celebrated my 50th birthday, and this year, Emerge Gallery & Art Center commemorates our 25th Anniversary. It is both humbling and deeply rewarding to recognize that I have devoted half of my life to serving the arts in Pitt County.



Over these 25 years, it is the people who stand at the center of this journey. I have had the distinct privilege of working alongside exceptional staff and dedicated board members, as well as collaborating with committed community partners, passionate advocates, and talented artists. Their collective efforts have helped shape Greenville and Pitt County into a more vibrant and culturally rich community.

The arts play a vital role in fostering education, supporting economic development, enhancing quality of life, bridging communities, and promoting healing. When Emerge first began, Pitt County had no Arts Council, no public art program, and no municipal arts partnerships. Today, we are proud that our community is recognized across North Carolina as a model for the impact and success of a local arts agency.

We invite you to join us in celebrating this important milestone:

25th Anniversary Open House and Ribbon Cutting

May 28, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

Emerge Gallery & Art Center, 404 Evans Street, Greenville

Please consider helping us with our Anniversary fundraiser. We hope to raise \$100,000 total, and we have \$25,000 more to go! Help us by donating at emergegallery.com under the support tab to raise \$25k for 25 years! I cannot wait to see what we create together during the next 25 years!

With sincere joy and gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly M. Garriott".

Holly M. Garriott
Executive Director



BOARD AND STAFF

PCAC at Emerge Board of Directors



As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, the Board of Directors helps steer our organization. The Board is made up of a diverse group of professionals representing different aspects of our Pitt County community. Through strategic planning activities, regular updates at meetings, overseeing the budget and participation in community events, the Board continues to advise and support all that Emerge does.



The Staff members of Emerge are more than just worker bees. They are a family that has grown and supported each other throughout the years. The staff has grown from zero to now 9 employees, over 20 ECU interns, and nearly 50 instructors each year. Our staff is the backbone of Emerge, making so many things happen not only in the building at Emerge, but throughout Pitt County.

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Emerge 25 Years Ago

A Thank You to the Edwards Family and U.B.E.

The year was 2000, and Holly Garriott, an ECU School of Art student, had the vision of starting an art gallery in downtown Greenville. She was introduced to Don Edwards, owner of U.B.E. (University Book Exchange), and other downtown properties. Don was immediately interested in hearing more about this dream. Don asked her to bring the business plan for Emerge Gallery to him, and within a month agreed to custom renovate the building on 404 Evans Street rent-free for a year.

Don's family had a deep tradition in Town and Gown partnerships and philanthropy, as well as Downtown revitalization. Just a year before, in 1999, Don led the effort to open up Evans Street to traffic as it had been a pedestrian mall for years. He knew that this would help the economic development for downtown, just as he knew the Arts would bring people downtown.



Don and Judy Edwards have continued to be the main partners with Emerge Gallery & Art Center, and now that continues with their children Jack and Claire, who now manage their properties. Claire is a member of the Pitt County Civic Arts Committee, working with other amazing members to manage the public art program throughout Pitt County.

Left: Holly and Don at the first Schwa Show Opening at Emerge, 2001

Right: Don, Claire, Judy, Jack Edwards at UBE, 2026



Photo by Joshua Vaughan / Blue Barn Design Co.

Arts Education Awards



Congratulations to our board member, Russell Knight, Pitt County Schools' Coordinator of Arts Education, on being recognized for the North Carolina Art Education Association (NCAEA) "Friends of the Arts Award"!

Art teacher at Creekside Elementary School, Tiffany Zarinana (pictured left of Russell above), was also recognized by the NCAEA as the Rookie Art Educator of the Year.

The North Carolina Art Education Association (NCAEA) is an active advocate for promoting visual arts education in K-12 public and private schools, higher education, museums, art centers, and arts councils across the state. It is affiliated with the National Art Education Association.



Russell Knight with PCS Superintendent, Dr. Steve M. Lassiter Jr.



Chicod School Art Teacher, Kathy Bello, presenting Russell Knight with award.

Murals in Pitt County

A public art installation, crafted by students participating in the Youth Public Arts Project Outreach Program, has been prominently displayed on the exterior of the Carver Branch of the Sheppard Memorial Library in Greenville, NC. Over a dozen students worked with Emerge Gallery & Art Center's art instructor, Rakia Jackson, to design the initial drawings for the panels. The panels' subject matter depicts the magic that books bring to life and the importance of the places that hold them safe. The students painted the imagery over the course of Spring 2025.



Throughout Pitt County, public art fosters community involvement. A new mural, capturing Ayden's founding relationship with the railroad, was created to celebrate 10 years of the Ayden Historical and Arts Society. A scene, photographed at the Ayden train depot in 1890, was recreated by the museum's Artistic Director Phil Barth and a team of volunteers. This mural serves as an outdoor welcome sign for visitors to the Ayden Museum, a facility brought to life lovingly by the Historical and Arts Society and community members in the original Dixon Medical Building on Second Street.

"For myself and the staff of Ayden Historical and Arts Society, it has been an extraordinary privilege to work on this record of our town's history," said Barth. "The mural is art for the community, a beacon, that at this museum, we share the history, the memories, the talents of our citizens — a connection, a bridge that invites our citizens to explore Ayden's past and share the city and family histories, to share their artists' endeavors and to embrace being a part of a wonderful place to live."





The 21st annual Youth Arts Festival was held at South Central High School in November of 2025, with 5,000 people in attendance.

The Youth Arts Festival is hosted by Emerge Gallery & Art Center, City of Greenville, Pitt County Schools, ECU College of Fine Arts and Communication, and Pitt Community College.

Over 1,000 student performers graced the stage from schools including Eastern Elementary, Ayden, Wintergreen, Hope Middle, Chicod, D.H. Conley, J.H. Rose, North Pitt, A.G. Cox, Creekside, Oakwood, South Central, Pitt Community College and more!

Interactive arts booths included repurposing discarded materials with Unnatural Resources Institute, auditions with costumes courtesy of Magnolia Arts Center, and excavating King Tut with the Anthropology Department from ECU.

From music and dance to theater and visual arts, the festival is a fantastic opportunity for creative exploration and community connection. Bring your family and friends to support these talented individuals and enjoy a day filled with inspiration and joy!

The 22nd annual Youth Arts Festival is scheduled for October 17, 2026 at South Central High School. Mark your calendars!

Photos by Aaron Hines, City of Greenville



Glorifying Vines Sisters

The Glorifying Vines Sisters are one of North Carolina's longest established quartet style gospel groups, having spent more than 60 years as professional touring and recording artists.

The Vines' family already had deep roots in Pitt County and artistic talent. In their early years, the sisters sang with their other siblings and father at the Union Grove Baptist Church near Farmville. Over the next two decades, the configuration of siblings would change until Alice, Dorothy, Mattie, and Audrey formed the smaller group, the Glorifying Vines Sisters.

The Vines Sisters' soulful songs took them all over the country, but they never forgot their heritage in eastern North Carolina.

Alice Vines lent her voice to the first Emerald Loop Trolley Shelter installed at Greenville's Town Common. The shelter is a stop on the African American Cultural Trail and itself represents the front porch of one of the houses. The recordings that play in the background are reminiscent of an African American spiritual being sung in the interior of the house.

Alice and Audrey, pictured right, still perform together today, even though Dorothy and Mattie are no longer with the group. They continue to receive recognition for their musical accomplishments. In 2025, the Glorifying Vines Sisters were honored and celebrated by the North Carolina Arts Council as the latest recipients of the North Carolina Heritage Award. This prestigious award honors our state's most eminent traditional artists and practitioners.

Alice Vines has been a prominent fixture at the Music Maker Studio in Fountain since its opening in 2024, performing at its official dedication. While she has attended many recording sessions for other artists, this year was her first time recording her own album in the studio.

Photo by Joshua Vaughan / Blue Barn Design Co.



Making Music in

Hidden treasures are often found in sleepy little towns in rural eastern North Carolina. Music and family connections are the foundation of these gems.

Beyond its single spotlight crossroads, you will find **R.A. Fountain**, a purveyor of music, art and books. Once a general store for the entire town, the space hosts bluegrass and folk musicians for intimate concerts. Fountain, NC holds several new gems with the Music Maker Studio, Freeman Vines' workshop, and Tim Duffy's photography studio. On a warm summer night, the quiet town buzzes with electric guitars and the voices of songbirds.



Alex and Elizabeth Albright moved to Fountain over twenty years ago and have been essential to the preservation of the history and the musical traditions of this small town. Joined by Tim and Denise Duffy, founders of the **Music Maker Foundation**, last year,

a legacy of musical ensembles have been uplifted.



The soul of the Duffy's organization now sits inside the Music Maker Studio on Wilson Street in Fountain, NC. With less than a year of occupancy, the studio exudes

the richness of eastern North Carolina folk, sacred, and blues. Recent recordings include "On the Case" by The Crimestoppers and "Coming Up through the Years" by the Dedicated Men of Zion. These musicians, like many of the musical groups performing in

Fountain and Farmville

Fountain, are part of family legacy ensembles such as Faith & Harmony and the Glorifying Vines Sisters. The generations of familial performers have created something truly remarkable. Sacred Soul is a genre-bending sound that masterfully blends bluesy tunes, vibrant stompers that will get you moving and grooving, tender ballads that will tug at your heartstrings, and tracks that evoke a classic doowop charm reminiscent of a bygone era. With each note, they pay homage to their musical heritage while simultaneously pushing the boundaries of what is possible, creating a unique sound that is both nostalgic and innovative.

The Glorifying Vines Sisters have even stronger connections to Farmville, NC and have performed many times at the **Paramount Theatre** which is the cornerstone of the Farmville Community Arts Council.

The Town of Farmville declared February 13, 2026 as Roberta Flack Day to honor the music teacher who spent several years at H.B. Sugg School. On that same night, "Roberta: A Roberta Flack Tribute" solidified Farmville's commitment to the arts and secured their place on the main stage. These smaller music venues have a profound impact on both the community and the musicians themselves.



Take time this year to visit each:

R.A. Fountain, 6754 E. Wilson Street, Fountain, NC

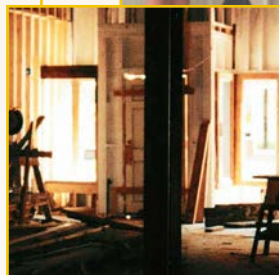
Music Maker Studio, 6742 E. Wilson Street, Fountain, NC

Paramount Theatre, 3723 N. Main Street, Farmville, NC

Chatham Rabbits, 2018. Photo credit: Tom Whelans
Music Makers Studio. Photo credit: Tim Duffy.
Gloria Ryann, Roberta Tribute Concert. Photo credit: FCAC

2000

Organization created.
Renovations started.



2001

Grand Opening!

25 YEARS

2005

Youth Public Arts
Project started.

2007

Art is Good Medicine
Program began.
Co-Host of first
PirateFest.

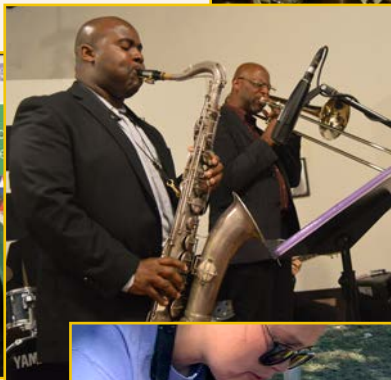
2016

African American
Music Series began.



2009

Became Pitt County
Arts Council.



2015

First Five Points Archway
Mural at Starlight Cafe:
"Hurry" by Alice Holloman.

2018

Started coordinating
Youth Arts Festival.

2020

**Black Creatives of
Pitt County formed.
Public Art Program
expansion.**



2022

**Growth of
Outreach Programs:
Art is Good Medicine
Youth Public Art Project**

2021

**Downtown Greenville Murals.
Emerald Loop Intersection Murals
at Evans Street and Reade Circle
and Reade Circle and Cotanche.**

2024

**Paddock Club Memorial dedicated.
Emerald Loop Trolley Shelter dedicated.
Mosaic Multicultural Arts Festival began.**



2025

**Greenville-Pitt County Pride Festival began.
Emerald Loop Lighting Installed.
Mural on Albemarle Avenue Roundabout Installed.**

2025 Pitt County Arts

Arts Advocate of the Year Ms. Harvey Wooten



Ms. Harvey Wooten was awarded the Pitt County Arts Council's Arts Advocate of the Year Award during the State of the Arts luncheon last fall. A longtime advocate, Ms. Harvey Wooten has established many programs and events over the years. Pitt County Schools have been recipients of her generosity through the "Ms. Harvey Wooten High School Visual Art

Exhibit and Competition," sponsoring awards for Pitt County Schools art students and creating a matching fund for PCS arts educators. Ms. Wooten continues to give her time and treasure to our community by supporting programs like Pitt Community College's DownEast Holiday Show, the Tiny Art Show at Emerge, and even the ArtZine! Harvey's passion for the Arts is a glowing example of what one person can do to help lift up an organization. She has helped make Pitt County an arts destination.

Arts Partner of the Year Greenville Utility Commission

Greenville Utilities (GUC) has been a partner with the Arts Council for many years, going back to their sponsorship of PirateFest when Emerge was a coordinator. Most recently, GUC has been involved with the Emerald Loop lighting project and helping fund the Emerald Express Trolley. They also have been the liaison to our connection to Electricities, who recently awarded Emerge the Downtown Revitalization Grant. GUC's commitment to our community is so essential to the growth of Greenville and the surrounding areas.

Council Awards

Artist of the Year Susan Corbitt



“Ms. Su-Su has been an inspiration to many dancers and artists through the years and her impact on our community can be felt deeply. In the 10 years I’ve had the pleasure of working with her, I’ve gotten to experience first-hand the impact she has on those young students that enter her classroom. Ms. Su-Su not only fosters a love for the

art of dance, but has helped countless young students build motor skills and rhythm, and explore self-expression through movement and music. Her work is a true work of the heart. Ms. Su-Su, thank you for all you’ve done for our community and for bringing the joy of dance to so many students!” - Sara Caropreso Ford (Recreation Supervisor, Jaycee Park Center for Arts and Crafts) celebrates **Susan Corbitt**, Pitt County Arts Council's Artist of the Year Award recipient



2026 Pitt County Arts

Arts Advocate of the Year Jeremy Jordan



For more than three decades, **Jeremy Jordan** has consistently supported, promoted, and elevated the performing arts in Greenville. His career reflects not only professional achievement, but a sustained commitment to enriching campus life and honored the legacies of the community.

Through his role as Director of the ECU Central Ticket Office, Jeremy has ensured that countless patrons, families,

students, and community members have seamless access to the rich cultural and performing arts experiences that help define ECU. As co-owner and show director of Limelight Nightclub and Crave Nightclub, Jeremy demonstrated entrepreneurial vision and creative direction. Today, that passion continues as show director for the Paddock Club Pop-Up nights sponsored by Emerge Gallery & Art Center.

Arts Partner of the Year The City of Greenville

The **City of Greenville** has worked with the Arts Council for over two decades. Starting with the Eppes Memorial Gateway, the City has continued to support public art with the DownEast Sculpture Exhibition, sculptures at the 10th Street overpass and transportation center, whisper benches at 5 Points Plaza, and murals at Carver Library and the Police Substation on 5th Street. More recently, the City is our major partner with the Emerald Loop project including the Emerald Express, as well as a co-host for our Youth Arts Festival and Mosaic Multicultural Arts Festival. They have also been a Grassroots Grantee for the Sunday in the Park Series.

Council Awards

Artist of the Year Gloria Ryann



Throughout **Gloria Ryann**'s journey as a performer and community advocate, she has been fortunate to take on several roles that have not only enriched her life but also strengthened the cultural fabric of Farmville. Gloria's time as a board member of the Farmville Community Arts Council (FCAC) has been pivotal in organizing events like the New Year's Eve Fundraiser, which brought the community together in celebration and support of the arts. Additionally, being a board member at the Nathaniel R. Cobb Sr. Foundation has allowed her to contribute to meaningful initiatives within Farmville. Most recently, Gloria organized and performed at the Roberta Flack Tribute, honoring former Farmville resident Flack for her contributions to the community.



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Amante Tacos	Pantana Bob's
Blue Barn Designs	Pecheles Automotive Group
BohoWave	Perkins Charitable Foundation
Carolina Chord Connection	Pitt Community College
Cedarbridge Baptist Church	Pitt County Cultural Arts
Chico's Mexican Restaurant	& Recreation
Christy's Euro Pub	Pitt County Economic
City Art Gallery	Development
Deuterman Law Group	Pitt County Schools
ECU College of Fine Arts and	Arts Education
Communication	Pitt Perspectives
ECU School of Art & Design	Poolside Yoga
ECU School of Music	Protect Trans Futures
ECU School of Theatre and Dance	Side/Bar
E. R. Lewis Construction Company	The Eddie and Jo Allison Smith
Fuller's Music House	Family Foundation
Grady-White Boats, Inc.	Starlight Café
Greenville Choral Society	Sun Witch Botanicals
HIS Radio	Sweet Violets
Jefferson's	Town of Ayden
Jenkins Management	Town of Farmville
Consulting, P.C.	Town of Winterville
Luna Pizza	Transworld Business Advisors
Bill and Agnes Monk Family	of ENC
Foundation	United Way of Pitt County
North Carolina Community	Wells Charitable Foundation
Foundation	West Charitable Foundation

Thank You!



North
Carolina
Arts
Council
*Fifty years
of leadership*



Arts Organizations in Pitt County

1413 Visuals	Greenville Theatre Arts Center
A Place in the Heart Theatre Company	Greenville Quilters Guild
Alleycat Records	Jaycee Park Arts & Crafts Center
The ArtLab at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences	Katura Dance
Ayden Arts & Recreation	L'Academie de Danse
Ayden Historical and Arts Society	Magnolia Arts Center
Black Creatives of Pitt County	Makerspace of Greenville
City Art Gallery	Music Academy of Eastern North Carolina
Dance Unlimited	The Music House
Downtown Greenville Partnership	Nash Studios
East Carolina ArtSpace	NC Academy of Dance Arts
Eastern Youth Orchestra	North Carolina Furniture School
ECU Arts	The Painted Peacock
ECU Joyner Library's Faulkner Gallery	PCC Fine Arts Gallery and Symphony
ECU Wellington B. Gray Gallery	Pitt County Schools Arts Education
Emerald City Big Band	Pitt County Senior Center
Emerald City Collective	Quilt Lizzy Ayden
Emerge Gallery & Art Center	R. A. Fountain General Store
Farmers & Makers Market	Smiles and Frowns Playhouse
Farmville Community Arts Council	Spazz Presents
Faux & More...Lisa Jordan	The State Theatre
Fisk Opus 126 - St. Paul's Episcopal Church	Tar River Community Band
The GlasStation	Up the Street Fiber Arts Studio
Greenville Brushstrokes	West Side Strings School
Greenville Choral Society	Wine and Design
Greenville Civic Ballet	Winterville Historical and Arts Society, Inc.
Greenville Museum of Art	

Arts Organizations and Artists in Pitt County
are listed in the Art Venues and Artist Directory

<https://www.pittcountyarts.org/community/arts-venues#/>

<https://www.pittcountyarts.org/artists/artist-directory>

Memberships with Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge

I would like to sign up for the following:
(Please check the membership of your choice.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| ☐ | Senior 65+/Student (\$25)
PCC and ECU students only |
| ☐ | Individual (\$40) |
| ☐ | Family (\$65) |
| ☐ | Donor (\$150) |
| ☐ | Sponsor (\$250) |
| ☐ | Patron (\$500) |
| ☐ | Benefactor (\$1,000) |

Thank you for your support of Emerge Gallery & Art Center,
Home of the Pitt County Arts Council.
Emerge Gallery & Art Center is a 501(c)(3)
non-profit organization. Your donation is tax deductible.

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

(This email will be used to create your account.)

If Applicable:

Spouse's Name _____

Child(ren)'s Name(s) _____

If individual member is under 18:

Parent/Guardian _____

Become a part of Emerge Gallery & Art Center and help support this non-profit art center. Members are an active part of Emerge and benefits are growing everyday.
Memberships are renewed yearly.

Senior Citizens and College Students \$25

Benefits for Seniors 65 years and older and ECU and PCC students with valid ID include monthly mailings, discounts on classes and workshops for the individual, seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events and free admission to select special events.

Individual \$40

Benefits include monthly mailings, discounts on classes and workshops for the individual, a seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events and free admission to select special events.

Family \$65

Benefits include monthly mailings, discounts on classes and workshops for the immediate family, a seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events and free admission to select special events.

Donor \$150

Benefits include monthly mailings, 5% off sales gallery when mentioned, discounts on classes and workshops for the entire family, a seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events and free admission to select special events.

Sponsor \$250

Benefits include monthly mailings, 10% off in sales gallery when mentioned, discounts on classes and workshops for the entire family, a seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events and free admission to select special events.

Patron \$500

Benefits include monthly mailings, 10% off in sales gallery when mentioned, discounts on classes and workshops for the entire family, a seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events, free admission to select special events, and one free two hour rental of the gallery.

Benefactor \$1,000

Benefits include monthly mailings, 15% off in sales gallery when mentioned, discounts on classes and workshops for the entire family, a seasonal newsletter, invitation to members' only events, free admission to select special events, and one free four hour rental of the gallery.



