

MAAP

MASTER ARTIST APPRENTICE PROGRAM FY2025



MARTY McCONNAUGHEY
SCULPTURE



Marty McConnaughey- In 2011, self-taught East Tennessee artist Marty McConnaughey was deeply inspired to explore a new medium while traveling with her husband to Michigan and later with her sister to Florida. Divine inspiration presented Marty with a muse resulting in a shift in medium from painting portraiture to working with found gourds from Michigan and the fiber from a harvest of long pine needles in Florida.

This profound shift in medium has resulted in a growing body of nationally recognized, award winning sculpture using the shells of natural and dyed foraged gourds; harvested long pine needles; Tennessee and Florida sweet grasses; paper tree bark and many other gifts from nature.

Marty's work is an unexpected, stunning and perfect marriage of found natural materials seeming to capture a millisecond of elements in motion otherwise unseen. McConnaughey captures a glimpse of absolute beauty in motion, leaving the viewer with a breathtaking, everlasting second frozen in time - resulting in her unforgettable sculpture.

Among Marty's recent awards and exhibitions:

Tennessee Arts Commission – Solo Exhibition and featured on-line artists talk 2023/24

Best of Tennessee Craft 2023 – Custom's House- People's Choice Award

Fountain City Art Council, Knoxville, TN – Second Place

Best of Tennessee 2021, State of Tennessee Museum, First Place