

RESUME OF **ELLEN ELMES**: • MURALIST • WATERCOLOR PAINTER • TEACHER

Community Mural Projects Supervised by Artist, Painted with Community Participants

- 2024-2025 In process: Repainting (outdoor wall on fabric) of 2001 Dickenson County mural *Echoes* by Ellen Elmes and assisted by local artists; Commissioned and funded by the Town of Clintwood as well as an Apprenticeship grant from Virginia Folklife/Virginia Humanities; Clintwood, Virginia; Dedication will be June 2025.
- 2023-2024 Repainting (outdoor wall on fabric) of 1984 Richlands mural *The Past That Makes the Future Better* by Ellen Elmes and assisted by local artists; Commissioned and funded by the Citizens for the Arts, Tazewell County Board of Supervisors, and individual donors; Richlands, Virginia; Dedicated June 2024.
- 2022 *Standing Tall & Proud* (outdoor wall on fabric) Sixteen portraits of Tazewell County-born African Americans whose lives significantly and positively impacted others; Commissioned and funded by the Tazewell County Board of Supervisors; Tazewell, Virginia; Dedicated October 2022.
- 2018-2019 *Tazewell Now & Then*: (outdoor wall on fabric): Community and Tazewell Schools collaboration on drawing and painting, final design by Ellen Elmes. Sponsored by Tazewell Today, Tazewell, Virginia; Dedicated September 2019.
- 2012-13 *The Kingsport Carousel Project*: Lead designer, painter and facilitator of the Rounding Board Painting Project for the Kingsport Carousel Project. Cultural Arts Division of the City of Kingsport, Tennessee.
- 2009 *Flora, Fauna, & Fantasy of Tallahassee, Florida* (outdoor installation): An After School Arts Program Community Mural; Coordinated research, design, and creation of school community mural at the charter School of Arts & Sciences, Tallahassee, Florida.
- 2007 *Common Ground Scotland Collaborative Migration Wall Project* (indoor installation): Collaborated with tutors and students in the creation of wall mural. Allanton Sanctuary, World Peace Center, Auldirth, Dumfries, Scotland.
- 2005-2006 *Community Portrait: Grundy, Virginia* (outdoor mural): Coordinated research, design, and creation of community mural with students focusing on stories of life and people in Grundy, Virginia.
- 2003 *Once Upon A Time* (indoor wall paintings): Coordinated research, design, and creation of wall paintings illustrating fairy tales/nursery rhymes painted by Southwest Virginia Community College students: Pediatrics Wing of the Norton Community Hospital, Norton, Virginia.
- 2003-'04 *Imagine Nation Youth Mural Project* (indoor wall): Coordinated design and creation of children's mural sponsored by Collinsville YMCA and Piedmont Arts Center, Martinsville, Virginia; VA Commission for the Arts Grant Award.
- 2002-05 *Richlands Teen Center Murals Project* (indoor wall): Coordinated design and creation of wall paintings with Southwest Virginia Community College and high school students. Richlands, Virginia.
- 2002 *Coal Miners Memorial Project* (outdoor monument): Designed and created drawings in collaboration with SWCC student Thomas Hagerman for granite wall etchings of the Coal Miners Memorial. Richlands, Virginia.
- 2000-01 VCCS Chancellor's Professorship Award Projects (outdoor murals):

Coordinated design and creation of (a) *A Splash of Color Across Time* with Southwest Virginia Community College students. Richlands, Virginia; (b) Clintwood Community Mural *Echoes* mural with Southwest Virginia Community College students about Dickenson County. Clintwood, Virginia. Grant Award, VA Community College System.

Murals/Large Scale Paintings Designed and Painted by Artist:

- 2020 *Passing the Torch* (outdoor wall installation painted on fabric): Designed and painted for the Centennial Celebration of the 19th Amendment; commissioned by the Women's Suffrage Centennial Celebration Coalition of Johnson City; Johnson City, Tennessee. Dedicated October, 2020.
- 2019 *Tazewell As Seen Through the Eyes and Words of Louise Leslie* (indoor installation): Designed and painted for the restored North Tazewell, Virginia, train station and sponsored by the Town of Tazewell.
- 2018 LOVE sign (outdoor installation): Designed and painted for the Breaks Interstate Park, Haysi, Virginia and sponsored by the Park and the VA Tourism Commission.
- 2016-17 *History of a Hometown Bank* (indoor installation): Designed and painted for the new banking facility of the Bank of Tennessee, Kingsport, Tennessee.
- 2016 *Looking East on Front Street in the 1940s* (indoor installation): A look back in time to the stores and merchants of downtown Richlands, Virginia; Commissioned by the Appalachian Cabinetry & Millworks, Richlands, Virginia.
- 2015-16 *Richlands & the Rails* (outdoor wall): Designed and painted as part of Section Foreman's House and Park Renovation Project; supported by VA Commission for the Arts Grant Award.
- 2013-14 *Celebrating Abingdon's History* (outdoor wall): A visual overview of Abingdon, Virginia. Commissioned by Advance Abingdon and the Town of Abingdon; supported by VA Commission for the Arts Grant Award.
- 2012 *Daddy's Home: Portrait of a West Virginia Mining Family* (indoor installation): Commissioned by McArts, McDowell County, West Virginia.
- 2011 *History of Pal's* (outdoor wall): Commissioned by Pal's Sudden Service Revere Street, Kingsport, Tennessee.
- 2010 *Tribute to the Stanley Brothers* (indoor installation): Eight acrylics on canvas illustrating the Stanley Brothers' songs. Ralph Stanley Museum & Community Center, Clintwood, VA; Commissioned by Common Ground On the Hill, McDaniel College, Maryland.
- Entire repainting of: *History of the City of Kingsport* (outdoor wall) City of Kingsport, Tennessee (originally painted 1987-1988)
- 2007-08 *Changing Lives* (indoor triptych installation): Honoring Ira & Mary Zepp. Center for Teaching Excellence, Hoover Library, McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland.
- 1998 *Pisgah United Methodist Church Bicentennial History* Mural (indoor installation): Pisgah United Methodist Church, Tazewell, Virginia.
- 1995 *Passages*: a visual history of Gettysburg College (4-part indoor installation): College Union Building, Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

- 1991 Weavings: a visual history of McDaniel College (indoor wall): Hoover Library, McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland.
History of the Richlands United Methodist Church (indoor installation): Richlands United Methodist Church, Richlands, Virginia.
- 1988 History of Coal Mining in Southwest Virginia (4-part indoor installation): Davis Hall, Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia.
- 1982 The History of Western Medicine (indoor installation): The Clinic, Richlands, Virginia.
- 1980 The History of Transportation in Wheeling, West Virginia (indoor wall): Wheeling Civic Center, Wheeling, West Virginia.

Recent Watercolor Exhibitions:

- 2025 Upcoming: *Ellen Elmes: The Art of Music & Mountains*; Birthplace of Country Music Museum Gallery, Bristol, Virginia; March-September 2025.
- 2023 *Gravity & Grace: Visual Reflections on Human and Mother Nature*; Artworks by Ellen and Don Elmes; the Paine Gallery, Bluefield, West Virginia.
- 2022 Group Exhibit in Member's Gallery, The Arts Depot, Abingdon, Virginia.
- 2020 *Root, Leaf, & Berry*, Appalachian Highlands Botanical Group Exhibition sponsored by Create Appalachia, Erwin, Tennessee
- 1999-2024 Group Exhibition for Common Ground Traditions Artists Peterson Gallery, McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland

Selected Overview of Past Watercolor Exhibitions:

- 2017-19 *Holiday Showcase* Group Exhibition Appalachian Arts Center, Wardell/Cedar Bluff, Virginia
- 2018 *Virginia Watercolor Society 39th Annual Exhibition*, Juried Exhibition Olin Hall Gallery, Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia
Legacy: Celebrating 150 Years of the Fine Arts at McDaniel College Group Invitational, Carroll County Arts Council, Westminster, Maryland
Art from the Heart of Home: Johnny Hagerman's Brick Sculptures, Ellen Elmes' Murals, and Edith Boothe's Paintings, Festival of the Arts Exhibition Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia
- 2011-2012 *Thinking Like a Mountain* Group Exhibition Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia & Bluefield College, Bluefield, Virginia
- 2011 *Thirty Years of Patronage & Paintings* One-Woman Show Appalachian Arts Center, Wardell, Virginia
- 2010 *Elmes Times Two: Watercolors by Ellen Elmes & Photographs by Don Elmes* Kingsport City Hall & Renaissance Cultural Arts Center, Kingsport, Tennessee

- 2009 Mountain Empire Community College, Slemp Gallery
One-Woman Exhibition, Big Stone Gap, Virginia
- 2008 Globe Gallery, Two-Person (Ellen and Don Elmes) Featured Exhibition
Clayton, Georgia
- 1996/97 *Scotland & Appalachia: Parallel Visions* One-Woman Show
Gallowgate Centre Gallery, Aberdeen College, Scotland
Conoco Company Headquarters, Aberdeen, Scotland
Brainerd's Gallery, Bluefield, VA.
Parallel Visions Traveling Exhibition funded by the Semons Foundation

Teaching Experience:

College Level

- 2008-'19 Adjunct Professor of Art, Fall Semesters (retired from full-time teaching)
Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia
- 1988-2007 Assistant Professor of Art
Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia
- 2000-'03 Team Teacher- NIS Community College Partnership Programs
Ivanovo State University, Ivanovo, Russia

Artists Residencies/Workshops/Retreats (selected)

- 2003-'10 & 2012, 2016 Lillian E. Smith Center for Creative Arts, Clayton, Georgia
Resident artist for purpose of creating new works.
- 1997-2012 Common Ground on the Hill Traditions Week
Watercolor painting workshop instructor, McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland
- 2002, '04, '05 Common Ground Scotland Summer Schools, Ayreshire, Scotland
'07, '09 Tutor of watercolor painting workshops
- 1995-'96 Artist-in-Residence and Instructor of Art
Aberdeen College, Aberdeen, Scotland
- 1988 Artist-in-Residence Cape Lookout National Seashore, Arts-in-the-Parks program

Honors/Awards/Presentations:

- 2017 Speaker at the Lillian E. Smith Symposium on Arts & Social Change,
Piedmont College, Athens, Georgia
- 2013 Honorary Citizen/Key to the City Award
& 1987 Downtown Kingsport Association, Kingsport, TN
- 2008 Gallery at Southwest Virginia Community College re-named in honor of artist: "The
Ellen Von Dehsen Elmes Gallery"
- Distinguished Service Award for 19 years teaching at
Southwest Virginia Community College
- 2002 McDaniel College Trustees' Alumni Award
McDaniel College, Westminster, Maryland
- Ambassador of the Arts Award
Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia

- 2000-02 Chancellor's Professorship Award
for Community Murals and Service Learning Project
Virginia Community College System, Richmond, Virginia
- 2000,'08
& 1984 Governor's Awards for the Arts Nominee
Richmond, Virginia
- Phi Theta Kappa Faculty Scholar Award
for Contribution to Scholarship in the Creative Arts
Southwest Virginia Community College, Richlands, Virginia
- 1993 Excellence in Education Award
for Arts-Across-the-Curriculum Project Virginia Technological Institute, Virginia
- 1988 Citizen of the Year Award for Community Service in the Arts
Richlands Area Chamber of Commerce, Richlands, Virginia

Arts Organization Membership and Voluntary Service:

- 2006-2020 Appalachian Arts Center, Cedar Bluff, Virginia, Juried Artist/Member
- Artist's Depot Artists Association, Abingdon, Virginia, Juried Artist/Member
- Virginia Watercolor Society Signature Member
- 1996-2019 SWCC Festival of the Arts Visual Arts Coordinator, Southwest Virginia Community
College, Cedar Bluff, Virginia
- 2011-18 'Round the Mountain Juried Artist, Heartwood, Abingdon, Virginia
- 2011-2012 'Round the Mountain Board member, Education Committee Chair, Heartwood,
Abingdon, Virginia
- William King Museum Education Advisory Committee, Abingdon, Virginia
- 2009-'10 Minds Wide Open Tazewell County Artists Planning Committee
- 'Round the Mountain Tazewell/Russell County Trail Committee
- 2008 & '11 Virginia Commission for the Arts Area I Advisory Panelist
- 2007-'10 William King Museum Artistic Direction Advisory Committee
- Ongoing Virginia Watercolor Society member, Depot Artists' Association member, Southwest
Virginia Community College Exhibition Organizer

Education:

- 1969 McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College)
Westminster, Maryland
Graduated with Honors in Art, Bachelor of Science Degree