

WEST HAVEN CONNECTIONS: LANDSCAPE AS A POINT OF DEPARTURE

Clients in Bridges' **Young Adult Services Program** took photography instruction from **Harold Shapiro** as part of their social/vocational/creative arts programming. These photographs and dozens of others taken in West Haven were exhibited at two local galleries and at the Legislative Office Building at the State Capitol. These young adults have transitioned out of Bridge's program and many have kept the photos they produced to remind them of their accomplishments. (HALLWAY, LEFT SIDE)

Bridges' YAS program, based in West Haven helps young adults ages 18 – 25 with mental health needs achieve the necessary skills for more independent adult life. Young Adult Services assists individuals affected by serious mental illness and/or traumatic events with reaching their fullest potential. Services are offered in a respectful, responsive and compassionate manner, with sensitivity to individual needs and strengths.

Linda Haas is the Clinical Director of Young Adult Services at Bridges based in West Haven and enjoys photographing the West Haven shoreline. (RECEPTION & HALLWAY, RIGHT SIDE)

Sue Pranulis is Executive Director of Marketing & Communications for the University of New Haven. Prior to the University of New Haven, Sue worked at Wesleyan University, and later as an Art Director for a financial services company. Sue was awarded the University of New Haven Excellence in Innovation and Creativity Award in 2007, and her photography was published in Yankee Magazine: June/July 2014 issue. (CONFERENCE & STAFF ROOMS)

Libby Earle Depiero spent many years as a disability advocate, from working in state-run institutions to group homes and classroom settings, then serving as an employment specialist for the disabled. She witnessed major changes in community care, with new advances in medicine supporting clients to thrive in the community. She resides in West Haven and this is the first exhibition of her paintings, which are inspired by her knowledge of art history and her perspective on the significance of local scenes. She has contributed *Our Lone Sailor* and *The West Haven Commons* (RECEPTION) and *Exploring the Deep* (CONFERENCE ROOM)

Qusaan Hoskie, aka "The Quizzler" grew up in West Haven and now resides in Hamden. His abstract paintings are created as a way to process responses to his environment and the continual tension between structure and chaos, changing moods, connection and rupture. (CONFERENCE ROOM & HALLWAY, RIGHT)

Theresa Elisabeth Guerrin is a veteran of the US Army, the Army Reserve, and the National Guard where she trained and served as a mechanic. Her series of aperiodic tiling patterns created with pen and ink were started in West Haven. Artmaking that honors her keen sense of precision has aided the ongoing adjustment to civilian life. (RECEPTION & HALLWAY, LEFT)

Steven Meyers, PhD, is a West Haven resident who arrived later-in-life to artmaking. His life's work has mainly been helping people achieve greater impact through philanthropy. Along the way as he wrote, presented and prepared for public speaking, he noticed that drawing helped to advance and clarify his thinking. Art was a blessing during COVID, as it overtook everything else.

Surprising to some, Steven's process is exclusively digital. Illustrations based on photographs evoke scenic memories. (HALLWAY, LEFT)

Kate Henderson, director of Kehler-Liddell Gallery in New Haven, draws upon her scientific background to create fictionalized cellular structures that reveal relationships between macro- and micro-level views of the natural world. Her richly saturated [graphic prints](#) have been exhibited before in health care settings, including Connecticut Hospice. In 2019, Art Space gallery commissioned her work and exhibited it at Yale West Campus on the theme of Wellbeing. (RECEPTION & CONFERENCE ROOM).

West Haven Authors Corner - selection of reading materials by published writers showcasing the range of local talent to further enrich clients' experience visiting this office (RECEPTION)

- The Night is Yours, by **Abdul-Razak Zachariah** with illustrations by Keturah A. Bobo
A children's book inspired by growing up in a West Haven apartment complex
- Dawnland Voices: An Anthology of Indigenous Writing from New England
Schaghticoke section co-edited by **Ruth Garby Torres** of West Haven, who advised the 2021 International Festival of Arts and Ideas on an Indigenous Writers of CT panel.
- Several volumes of poetry by **Tony Fusco**, Poet Laureate of West Haven
Juggling ironic commentary on contemporary society with questions about youth, aging, and family connection
- These Women You Gave Me, by **Antionette Brim Bell** (on order, coming soon)

This exhibition was curated by **Elinor Slomba of Verge Arts Group**, a small business based in West Haven. Besides curating and consulting for established cultural institutions like the New Haven Museum, she enjoys mentoring creative entrepreneurs. From 2014-2017 she directed New Haven's Project Storefronts Program, which was written up in several national publications.