making a living // making a life

schedule of events // January 25, 2008 // Jenkins Fine Arts Center

8:00–8:45  Breakfast // Music // Registration  
Speight Auditorium Foyer

8:45–10:00  Welcome // Michael Drought, Director of the School of Art and Design  
Introduction // Linda Darty, Professor, Metal Design  
Opening Keynote Speaker // Becky Anderson  
Speight Auditorium

10:15–11:15  Breakout Session #1  
Jane Filer  
Marcia Macdonald  
Catherine Ellis  
Michael Brown  
Mike Joosse  
Trevor Van Meter  
Scott Avett  
painting  
metal  
textiles  
wood  
graphic design  
illustration  
printmaking  
1326  
1324  
1342  
1325  
1301  
1110  
auditorium

11:30–12:30  Breakout Session #2  
Jane Filer  
Marcia Macdonald  
Michael Waller & Nick Joerling  
Annette W. Brooks & Kay Barrow  
Trevor Van Meter  
Taj Forer  
painting  
design metal  
sculpture  
ceramics  
illustration  
photography  
1326  
1324  
1325  
1308  
1327

12:30–1:45  Lunch // third floor Foundations Gallery Foyer (near room 1320)

1:45–2:45  Afternoon Keynote Speaker  
Jon Ellenbogen // “Finding Your Way: Choosing the Life of a Working Artist”  
Speight Auditorium

3:00–4:00  Breakout Session #3  
Scott Avett  
Michael Brown  
Catherine Ellis  
Nick Joerling  
Mike Joosse  
Michael Waller & Leah Foushee  
Taj Forer  
Ira Varney  
printmaking  
wood design  
textiles  
ceramics  
graphic design  
sculpture  
photography  
art education  
auditorium  
1326  
1325  
1342  
1324  
1301  
208  
1327

4:15–6:00  Panel Discussion with all the artists  
Speight Auditorium
List of Presenters and Presentations

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Becky Anderson (morning keynote speaker) sponsored by the Graduate Alliance
Becky Anderson will describe how HandMade in America has fostered an arts-based economy that encourages partnerships between artists and tourism, small business, environmental organizations, construction trades, and traditional economic development organizations. HandMade in America is a non-profit organization promoting craft arts and culture for community and economic development in western North Carolina. Executive Director for HandMade in America, Becky Anderson oversees operations and programs that involve 3,000 citizens and 20 regional partnerships and serves as a consultant for cultural and economic development projects related to the arts. Becky received her B.A. from Western Carolina University – Cullowhee and did graduate work at University of North Carolina in Asheville.

Scott Avett sponsored by the Printmaking Guild
Faith, Hard Work, and Patience
Being an active painter and printmaker has proven to be more about being resourceful than anything else. Once I recognized my obligation to be an artist, my source of income became irrelevant. Everything I do is structured around my production of art, whether it is in the form of painting, printmaking, or song writing.

Scott Avett earned a BS in communications in 1999 from East Carolina University and a BFA in painting in December of 2000. Avett's passions include creating using multiple artistic mediums, such as illustration, printmaking, painting, sculpture, song writing, and performing. After graduation, Avett opened a small art gallery to showcase local artwork and provide a space to work on his own art. In 2000, he and his brother Seth collaborated musically to form a band fittingly called, The Avett Brothers. While keeping a very busy traveling schedule, he continues to fit in creative activities and maintain a life as an artist.

Annette W. Brooks & Kay Barrow sponsored by the Art Education Guild
Thinking About Teaching Art? Two Paths to Get There
Art Educators have great influence on students who decide to explore the visual arts as a career, as well as students who don't. Teachers receive great joy from helping others discover their creative selves, while personally expanding their own creativity in ways that could not have been done otherwise. This presentation will cover the realities of teaching art in public and private schools, as well as at the university level.

Annette Brooks has a BFA (painting and printmaking), MFA (painting and crafts design) and Masters Teaching Certification from East Carolina University. She also has Mentor and Clinical Teacher training. She has taught 30 years in the public schools and worked with numerous ECU art interns. Her teaching experience includes classes taught in the public school, community college, technical school, university, art gallery, parks and recreation department, community schools program, and her private home studio.

Michael Brown sponsored by the Wood Design Guild
It might be wood but can you float it in the marketplace?
Michael Brown will discuss his career in woodworking, covering topics including marketing, gallery representation, pricing, networking, and real life business concerns related to studio practice.

Jon Ellenbogen and his wife, Rebecca Plummer, have operated Barking Spider Pottery for over 30 years. Their passive solar home and studio is built above the Toe River in the North Carolina mountains near Penland School of Crafts. Jon was trained as an engineer at The Cooper Union and holds a PhD from Columbia University. After working on the anti-ballistic missile project at Bell Laboratories and teaching engineering, he took a ceramics class at Penland School of Crafts, where he met Rebecca. He's been a potter ever since.

Catherine Ellis sponsored by the Textiles Guild
Becoming an Effective Creator: Career Decisions and Possibilities
All artists/craftsmen face decisions throughout their entire careers. Catharine Ellis will talk about some of her choices and why she made them.

Jane Filer sponsored by the Painting Guild
History, Obstacles, and Career Strategies
A presentation will cover early- and mid-career choices in business and creating a body of work. The discussion will include how and when to approach galleries and the importance of exposure and self promotion.

Nationally recognized Chapel Hill artist Jane Filer received her BFA from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in 1982 and her MFA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1985. She has gallery representation along the east coast. Her work has been seen in Art News Magazine, American Art Collector and Southern Living magazine. Major corporations, hospitals, and universities collect Filer's work.
Taj Forer sponsored by the Photography Guild
*A Journey Underway*
Taj Forer will give an overview of his photographic career from the founding of *Daylight Magazine* up through the publication of his monograph and exhibition with Yossi Milo Gallery in New York. He will also share some new work that is currently underway.

Taj Forer's first monograph, *Trefold Sun*, will be published this fall by Edizioni Charta and will accompany an exhibition. Mr. Forer studied at Sarah Lawrence College and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He is a founding editor of the contemporary photography publication *Daylight Magazine* and currently lives and works in North Carolina. He is represented by Yossi Milo and Branch Galleries and was a 2007 Artist in Residence at North Carolina Contemporary Art.

Nick Joerling sponsored by the Ceramics Guild
*I Am What I Do With My Hands*
A life in the studio: How do you know if you want it? How do you get it? What have you gotten? Joerling will discuss his observations about the challenges and rewards of life as a studio artist.

Nick Joerling is a full-time studio potter who has maintained a studio in Penland, North Carolina since the mid-1980s. He received a BA in history from the University of Dayton, Ohio, and an MFA in ceramics from Louisiana State University in 1986. He has taught workshops throughout the United States and abroad, been widely reviewed and exhibited, and is represented in public and private collections.

Mike Joosse sponsored by the Design Associates
*500 Things I Learned After Graduation* (*I rounded up a little.*)
Being a designer is tough work. You have to figure out how to stay happy, how not to sell your soul, what new tricks to learn, and which shade of black best matches your expensive computer. Mike will share some tips, ideas, and a rant or two on how to prepare yourself to enter the working world and what you might see when you get there.

Mike Joosse is the Creative Supervisor at Ogilvy Durham, the current President of AIGA Raleigh, and the incoming President’s Council Chair for AIGA’s national board of directors. His work has been recognized by 365: AIGA Annual Design Competitions, AIGA 50, BOOM, HOW Magazine’s Self-Promotion Annual and the Triangle Addy Awards. His words have appeared in Print Magazine. His chin and hands can be seen in the book Inspirability. His parents still do a lot of nodding and smiling when he talks about his job.

Trevor Van Meter sponsored by the Design Associates
*New Directions in Illustration*
In today’s digital world illustrators can work for clients anywhere from almost anywhere, even Greenville! Van Meter will show some of his work, talk about current projects, and discuss his experience as a freelance illustrator and animator in today’s digital realm, focusing on the changing and challenging markets for illustrators today.

Trevor Van Meter graduated from the School of Art and Design at ECU in 1999 with a BFA concentration in illustration. After a few years working in New York City he relocated to Greenville and runs a successful freelance illustration business, tvstudio. Trevor’s work ranges from traditional media to pixel art, Flash animation to vector art, character development to the vinyl toy realm, and beyond. Some of his clients include: Disney, Google, Ricoh, Bell Solo, RedBull, Classic Media, the Cartoon Network, Mazda, Lego, Citibank, Hasbro and Adidas, and many others.

Ira Varney sponsored by the Art Education Guild
*Teaching Art in Today’s Public Schools*
Varney will describe his experiences as an art teacher in middle and high school art classrooms.

Ira Varney is an art teacher and Art Department Chair at South Central High School in Pitt County. Varney is a 1999 graduate of ECU with a BFA in art education, concentrating in sculpture. He is currently in his ninth year of teaching. Before teaching at South Central, Varney taught middle school for three years in Johnston County.

Michael Waller and Leah Foushee sponsored by the Sculpture Guild
*Making a Living as a Sculptor*
Sculptors Michael Waller and Leah Foushee will discuss their perspectives on the “real world” of art. They will discuss their experiences working in art-related professions while continuing to create individual and public art. They will also discuss their decision to buy and build rather than rent a studio as they started their business.

Michael Waller and Leah Foushee received BFAs in sculpture from East Carolina University. Michael has worked as a professional foundry technician, mold-maker, and metalsmith, and Leah teaches art. They continue to create and exhibit their work. They collaboratively created public art projects for the city of Durham, the North Carolina School of the Arts, Duke Corporate Education, the American Tobacco Historic District, as well as other public and private institutions. They reside in Hillsborough, North Carolina where they are building their studio and running their business, WallerFoushee Studios, LLC.