

**JEAN W. MCLAUGHLIN**

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**Career Summary** Leadership and management in the visual arts with a focus on education, service to individual artists, program development, strategic planning, board development, governance, stewardship, and fundraising.

**Professional Experience** **Artist, Writer, Curator, Arts Nonprofit Consultant**  
January 2018 - present

**Executive Director**  
**Penland School of Craft**  
May 1998-January 2018  
<https://penland.org/jean-mclaughlin/>  
<https://urbanglass.org/glass/detail/conversation-jean-mclaughlin-to-retire-as-executive-director-of-penland-sch>

In January 2018, I retired after 20 years as director of Penland School. Penland is an international center for craft education offering intensive workshops in 16 professional teaching studios. The school is as a residential retreat for professional artists and serious avocational students of all skill levels. Penland's programs also include a gallery and visitor center, a 3-year artist residency program, a 2-year core fellows program, winter residencies, an archives, and community collaboration educational programs. Founded in 1929, Penland School operates as a non-profit organization with a 32-34 member Board of Trustees and 65+ member staff. It maintains and operates 58 buildings on 420 acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains. The Campaign for Penland's Future, 2010-2016, raised \$32M for endowment growth, physical plant improvements, and annual fund growth. The Preserve Penland Campaign, 2001-2004, raised \$11.5M for scholarships, capital needs, and annual fund growth. Penland's annual operating budget grew from \$2M to \$7M and its endowment from \$2M to \$17 million during this tenure.

**North Carolina Arts Council**  
**Department of Cultural Resources**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**

Director of the Office of Statewide Initiatives and the state's % for Art Program -- June 1996 to May 1998

Visual Arts Section Director (including the state's % for Art Program and artist fellowships) -- October 1985-1996

Visual Arts and Literature Director --1979 to 1988

**Arts Nonprofit Consultant**  
**San Francisco, California**  
1982-1985

**Governor's Advocacy Council for Persons with Disabilities**  
**North Carolina Department of Administration**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**  
Arts Program Director -- 1978-1979

**North Carolina Museum of Art**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**  
Education Specialist -- 1978

**Division of the Arts**  
**North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources**  
**Raleigh, North Carolina**  
Special Projects Coordinator/Assistant to the Director -- 1975-1977

**Charlotte Latin School**  
**Charlotte, North Carolina**  
Art Educator -- 1973-1975

***Education***

National Arts Strategies  
Executive Leadership Program  
University of Michigan, Harvard University Schools of Business, Sundance Retreat  
October 2011-May 2013

Strategic Perspectives in NonProfit Management  
Harvard Business School  
July 6-12, 2003

Master of Arts in Liberal Studies  
College of Humanities and Social Sciences  
North Carolina State University  
August 1994  
*Thesis-Reframing Content and Communities: The Artworks of Terry Allen, James Luna and Suzanne Lacy*

Fundamentals of Management  
North Carolina Office of State Personnel  
1992  
59 hour course in management theory and application

Facing the New Realities  
Arts Action Research  
1991-1995 Management assistance program sponsored by the North Carolina Arts Council for nonprofit arts organizations

North Carolina State University  
School of Design  
1987 Independent study in textiles with Susan Brandeis

Penland School of Crafts  
2023 *Lithography: Drawing on the Rocks*, Aaron Coleman  
2022 *All About Mokuahama* with Yoonmi Nam  
2022 *Word + Image* with Stu Kestenbaum and Susan Webster  
2021 *Photo Lithography: The Captured Image* with Althea Murphy-Price  
2019 *Lithography: Basics and Beyond* with Deborah Chaney, *Relief Monoprint: Color, Shape, Edge* with Kristen Martincic, and *Improvisational Woodcuts* with Annie Silverman  
2018 *Monoprinting* with Andy Rubin and *Japanese Woodblock Printmaking* with Keiji Shinohara  
2017 *Maximalist Embroidery* with Rebecca Rinquist

2016 *Field Drawing* with Robert Johnson  
2015 *Field Work: Uprooting Tradition* with Susan Goethel Campbell  
2014 *The Art of the Monotype* with Jan Serr  
1986 *Color and Design* with Diane Itter

California College of Arts and Crafts  
1983-1985  
unclassified student in textiles and graphic design, course work accepted in 1985 for graduate studies in textiles with Lia Cook

Manage Your Meetings  
Interaction Associates, Inc.  
San Francisco, CA  
1985  
40 hour management training course

The Fundraising School  
University of San Francisco  
1984  
40 hour course in the theory and practice of fundraising, conducted by Henry Rosso

Managing the Arts  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Business  
1980  
One-month course in non-profit arts management

Bachelor of Arts  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
1972  
Major-Studio Art

***Personal***

Born 12/19/50  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
Married to artist Tom Spleth

Special interests in gardening, swimming, walking, travel, reading, writing, and making art. Time spent in Puerto Rico and the following countries: India, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Bahamas, British and American Virgin Islands, Antigua, Martinique, Dominique, Guadeloupe, Tahiti, England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Spain, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Canada, Mexico, Morocco, Israel, Denmark, and Norway.

***Selected Publications***

Conversation, *Magdalena Abakanowicz: Writings and Conversations*, Edited by Mary Jane Jacob and Jenny Dally, Skira Publishers, distributed by ARTBOOK/D.A.P, 2022, ISBN: 978-88-572-4639-0

Interview, *In the Spotlight: How Older Adults in Western NC Serve their Communities*, BRAHM, Blowing Rock, July 2022, traveling exhibition of conversations and photographs sponsored by AARP

Essay, Reflections, *Emergent Landscapes: Mountains, Music, & Improvisation in the Paintings of Abie Harris*, BRAHM, Blowing Rock, NC, October 2021

Curator's Statement, *Narrative/Abstraction/Iteration*, for the exhibition of same title, The Bascom Center for the Visual Arts, Highlands, NC, April 2020

Catalogue Essay, *Cacophony Without Dissonance*, Southern Strands: North Carolina Fiber Art, BRAHM, July 2019.

Director's Introduction, Inspired: Life in Penland's Resident Artist and Core Fellowship Programs, 2016, ISBN 978-0-9769110-1-2

Essay co-written with Anna Upchurch, *Values and Sustainability at Penland School of Crafts*, Humanities in the Twenty-First Century: Beyond Utility and Markets, Eleonora Belfiore and Anna Upchurch, eds., Palgrave MacMillan, 2013, pp 174-192

Catalogue Introduction, 0-60: The Experience Of Time Through Contemporary Art, published in collaboration Penland School of Crafts and the NC Museum of Art, 2013 ISBN 978-0-88259-999-1

Essay, Twenty-Five Years of Engaging the Public, *Retrospective 25*, Block Gallery, Municipal Building Art Exhibitions, Raleigh Arts Commission, NC October 2009

Visitors Guide co-written with Kathleen Mundell, *Tradition/Innovation: American Masterpieces of Southern Craft and Traditional Art*, *Southern Arts Federation (now SouthArts)*, 2008

Editor and introduction, The Nature of Craft and the Penland Experience, Lark Books, 2004, published on the occasion of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Penland School of Crafts ISBN 1-57.N326

Introduction, The Penland Book of Jewelry: Master Classes in Jewelry Techniques, Lark Books, 2005, ISBN 1-57990-698-2

Introduction, The Penland Book of Handmade Books: Master Classes in Bookmaking Techniques, Lark Books, 2004, ISBN 1-57990-474-2

Introduction, The Penland Book of Ceramics: Master Classes in Ceramic Techniques, Lark Books, 2003, ISBN 1-57990-338-x

Catalogue Essay and co-curator of the exhibition of the same title with Harriett Green, *Rethinking the Meaning of Craft*, Craft of the Carolinas: The Southern Moment, 1993

Production and introductions for NCAC Fellowship catalogues 1980-1996

### ***Honors Awards***

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Women in the Arts Recognition Award, May 2020

The Order of the Long Leaf Pine, bestowed by Governor Roy Cooper, December 2017

Educator of the Year, James Renwick Alliance, April 2016

Distinguished Alumni Award, NC State University, Master of Arts in Liberal Studies, March 2014

Commencement Address, UNC CH Art Department graduation ceremony, May 2003

***Board  
Service***

Organizing Committee, Handcrafted-Year of American Craft 2026  
Board of Directors, United States Artists, June 2019 to September 2022  
Board of Directors, American Craft Council, October 2016 to October 2022  
Board of Advisors, UNC School of the Arts, April 2018 to present  
Board of Directors, Community Foundation of Western NC, July 2018 to present  
Board of Directors, Wildacres Retreat, July 2001 to present  
NC Arts Council, Board Member, July 2013 to June 2019  
Board of Directors, The Center for Craft Creativity and Design, 2005-2014  
Board of Directors, Craft Emergency Relief Fund, November 2002-2008  
Board of Directors, Foundation for Mitchell County, January 2004-June 2012  
Committee member, Governor's Awards in the Arts and Humanities, 2001-2009  
Board of Directors, Mitchell County Chamber of Commerce, January 2001-2005

***Selected  
Activities***

*Member*, Mica Gallery, Bakersville, NC January 2022-present

Juror, *CraftForms 2023*, Wayne Art Center, 2023

Private work with collaborative printer Perry Obee, March 2023

*On the Edge of a Forest, a Conversation Begins*, two person show, Sea Islands Center Gallery – USCB, Beaufort, SC, January-February 2023

*Layers of Ink*, group exhibition, St. Louis Artist Guild, St. Louis MO, August/September 2022

*Word + Image*, solo exhibition, Mica Gallery, Bakersville, NC, June 2022

Juror, *Artfields*, April 2022

*Toe River Arts Studio Tour Exhibition*, November 2021, June 2022, November 2022, Spruce Pine, NC

Cary Arts Center, *New Works*, one-person exhibition, Feb-April, 2022

*Art of Water IV*, a group exhibition celebrating our most vital resource, water, James May Gallery, Milwaukee, WI, May, 2021

*H2O and Other Observations*, one person show, Toe River Arts Gallery, Burnsville, NC April 2021

Winter studio residency, Penland School of Craft, January 2021

*TRAC Studio Tour Exhibition*, November 2020, Spruce Pine, NC

*Fresh*, ArtSpace, group on-line exhibition, Raleigh, NC, April 2020

Toe River Arts Studio Tour, June/December 2019 and December 2020

Curator, *Narrative/Abstraction/Iteration*, The Bascom Center for the Visual Arts, Highlands, April-August 2020

Review Committee, CERF+ The Artists Safety Net, Covid-19 Relief Grants 2020

Participant, San Miguel Writers Conference, February 2020

Winter residency, Penland School of Craft, January 2020

Juror, The SouthArts Southern Prize, March 2020

Juror, Monson Arts Residency Program, Fall 2019

Craft Show Juror, Society of Arts and Crafts, Fall 2019

Keynote, Annual Meeting, BRAHM-Blowing Rock Art and History Museum, June 2019

Panelist, NEA, State and Regional Arts Organizations, November 2018-January 2019

Juror, Smithsonian Women's Show, October 2018

Organizational Reviewer, NC State University, Craft Center, October 2018

Judge, Florida Craftsman, November 2018

Speaker, *Make/Time: The Craft School Experience*, Craft in America Center, Los Angeles, February 2017

Speaker, *Institutional Leadership*, American Crafts Council Conference-Present Tense, Omaha, October 2016

Speaker, *New Works: Selected Artists*, Mint Museum of Art-May 2016

Juror, Artsposure, Raleigh, NC, May 2016

Speaker, *Knowing From the Inside*, conference of social anthropologists working with Tim Ingolds, Aberdeen University, Scotland, 2015

Panelist, *Art Quilts: A Contemporary Conversation*, October 2015, sponsored by Friends of Fiber International, SOFA Chicago

Speaker, *Let's Take the Long View: Deep Investments in Creative Practice*, October 2015, Alliance of Artist Communities, Providence RI, 2015

Juror, Rochester (NY) Craft Show, 2015

Juror, Emerging Voices Award, American Crafts Council, 2014

Presenter, The Artist's Perspective on Growth and Change, SOFA Chicago, Nov. 2014

Juror, *Materials: Hard and Soft*, 26<sup>th</sup> Annual National Contemporary Craft Competition and Exhibition, Denton Center for the Arts, Denton TX, February 2013.

Panelist, Glass Education at Haystack, Penland, and Pilchuck, SOFA Chicago, November 2012

Juror, *Craft Texas*, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 2012

Juror, Arts Exchange, Raleigh, NC, 2012

Panelist, "American Visions: Alternative Studies," International Academy of Ceramics General Assembly in Santa Fe, September 17-21, 2012.

Speaker, *Cultural Values*, Cultural Policy Conference, Warwick University, Coventry, UK, June 2012

Presenter, AIA New York Chapter, "Disegno: Drawing, the Language of Material, and the Importance of Craftsmanship in Contemporary Crafts," May 2011

Presenter, "Mint Museum Auxiliary, Charlotte, NC, February 2011

Presenter, SOFA Chicago, November 2010

Nominator, USA Artists, 2008; panelist 2009 and panel chair 2010

Co-curator, "Tradition and Innovation," 9 state traveling exhibition for the Southern Arts Federation on master craftsmanship in the Southeast 2008-2010, 2006-7 planning Award of Excellence from the Southeastern Museums Conference for the best exhibit in the over \$100,000 category. Related speaking engagements at Auburn University and the Louisiana Art and Science Museum.

Presenter, Women's Leadership Forum, Greensboro, NC, January 2008

Recommender, Creative Capital, 2007

Contributor, Making a Living in Crafts by Donald Clark, Lark Books, 2006

Presenter, The Arts Economy in WNC-Visual Art and Fine Crafts, the Community Foundation of Western NC, 2006

Juror, Florida Craftsmen Annual Fair, CraftArt 2006, St. Petersburg, FL, 2006

Presenter, Grantmakers in the Arts annual meeting, Pasadena, CA 2005

Site visitor and panelist, Charlotte Arts and Science Council, 2005

Panelist, Individual Artist Fellowship/Crafts, Tennessee Arts Commission, 2005

Juror, Crafts National 39, Central PA Festival of the Arts, State College, PA, 2005

UNC Asheville architect selection committee for new crafts campus, 2004-2005

Juror, Speaker, Rocky Mount Arts Center, "Handcrafted: A Juried Exhibition of Ceramics, Fiber, Glass, Metal and Wood" January 8- February 20, 2004

Retreat participant and advisor, Center for Craft Creativity and Design special projects, 2004, 2005, 2006

Site visitor, NC Arts Council, 2004

International Advisory Committee for the support of the Hans Waanders Foundation, March 2003 to present

Committee member, Study Commission for Western NC Heritage Designation, 2002

Participant and host, 5th Annual Summer Cultural Policy Meeting, Culture and Technology, June 2, 2001

Participant, Department of Cultural Resources Cultural Summit, April 10, 2001

Essayist, "Touching Public Art," *Public Art Review*, Vol 12, No. 2, Issue 24, Spring/Summer 2001

Team member, Public Art Master Plan, Charlotte, NC, winter 2001

Juror, Contemporary Objects Utilitarian Crafts for the Home, Artsapce, Raleigh, November 2000

Speaker and essayist, Smithsonian Institution annual craft fair, April 15, 2000

Panelist, public art program, SC Arts Commission, February, 2000

Essayist, Southern Highland Craft Guild 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibition catalogue, December, 2000

Panelist, Heritage and Preservation, National Endowment for the Arts, December, 1999

Speaker, NC Pottery Center, August 1999

Panelist, Winston Salem Appearance Commission, July, 1999

Juror, Transylvania Arts Council annual artist competition, July, 1999

Speaker, Design Camp/Recycling Conference, SC Arts Commission, May, 1999



Lecturer, "Public Art Where its History Runs Deep," North Carolina Museum of Art, April 30, 1998

Presenter, Duke Institute for Learning In Retirement, The History, Mission and Programs of Penland School of Crafts, October 1998

Panel planner and moderator, "Public Art: Provocation and Renewal," Urban Oasis Conference, SECCA, March 21, 1998

Panelist, Planning and Stabilization Multidisciplinary Panel, National Endowment for the Arts, November 1997

Planner, Spell of the Land symposium, NC State University, Raleigh, November 1997

Participant, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies Annual Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio, October 1997

Panelist, Exploris Children's Museum, Entry Gates Project, Raleigh, October 1997

Coordinator, "Dialogue: Arts and the Public Purpose," Raleigh, October 1997

Developer, the NC Arts Council's communications plan--web site, ARTS brochure, "communications tools," 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Press Packet, and "Artful State," a video by Joe Murphy, 1997

Planner and master of ceremonies, "When Visions Collide," an art and ethics conference co-sponsored with NC Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, Raleigh, March 1997

Panelist/consultant, Broward County FL Convention Center Public Art Project, June and September 1997, and Terminal 21 Public Art Project, December and January, 1998

Presenter and planner, "The Research Component of Public Art," Broward County Cultural Affairs, June 1997

Panelist, UNC-CH Alumni Sculpture Garden Public Art Project, Chapel Hill, Fall 1996 and July, 1997

Presenter, South Carolina Arts Commission, public art seminar "When Opportunities Knock," Columbia, SC, March 1997

Participant, Heritage Tourism Conference, Chapel Hill, January 1997

Planner and participant, Spell of the Land symposium, NC State University, Raleigh, November 1996

Participant, NC Center for Nonprofits, Annual Conference, Durham, October 1996

Moderator, Bird Garden Panel, National Art and Healthcare Conference, Duke Medical Center, September 1996

Judge, Gum Tree Festival, Tupelo, MS, May, 1995

Planning Committee, North Carolina/Israel Cultural Exchange, 1995-7

Search Committee for the position of Head of Visual Design, NC State University, Raleigh, NC, 1995

Workshop leader, Future Arts II, Durham, NC, September, 1994

Presenter, Craft and Ethics Conference, Winston Salem, NC, June, 1994

Participant, Alternate Roots Conference, Durham, NC, January, 1994

Co-curator of traveling exhibition and publication developer, Craft of the Carolinas: The Southern Moment, with Harriett Green, NC Arts Council and SC Arts Commission, 1993-1994

Participant, Arts Administrators Retreat, La Napoule, France, August, 1993

Juror, 1993 Professional and Citizen Awards Program, NC Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, July, 1993

Speaker, Friends of the Mint, Charlotte, NC, April, 1993

Juror, Hand Workshop Craft Fair, Richmond, VA, June, 1993

Speaker, National Conference of State Legislators, November 13, 1992, Raleigh, North Carolina

Panelist, Art and the Law Seminar, North Carolina Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, October 23, 1992, Raleigh, North Carolina

Planner and facilitator, Public Art Workshops for Artists, September 12 and 19, 1992, Raleigh and Charlotte, North Carolina

Participant, Open Dialogue Conference of the Association of American Cultures, June 25-28, 1992, Los Angeles, California

Planner and facilitator, Native American Art and Culture, March 9, 1992, Spirit Square Arts Center, Charlotte, North Carolina

Planner, convener, Public Art Symposium, January, 1992, Wake Forest University, Winston Salem North Carolina

Session planner, facilitator and introducer, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies Annual Meeting, November, 1991, New York, New York

Planner, Design Assembly, May, 1991, Penland, North Carolina

Speaker, Humanities Forum on Suppression and Censorship, North Carolina State University, April 3, 1991, Raleigh, North Carolina

Speaker, North Carolina State Construction Conference, March 20, 1991, Raleigh, North Carolina

Convener and facilitator, African-American Art and Issues, Winston Salem State University Diggs Gallery, February, 1991, Winston Salem, North Carolina

Coordinator, Fellowship Directors' Consortium, October, 1990, Penland, North Carolina

Participant, National Association of Artist Organizations Conference, October 12-15, 1990, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Panelist, National Endowment for the Arts, Challenge Overview (October), Visual Arts Overview (September), Design Arts (June), Visual Arts Special Projects and Challenge (June), 1990, Washington, D.C.

Judge, Outdoor Festival, Norfolk, VA, May, 1990

Participant, National Black Arts Festival, July, 1990, Atlanta, Georgia

Participant, Southern Arts Federation Visual Arts Coordinators Meeting, July, 1990, Atlanta, Georgia

Participant, Craft III Conference Sponsored by the Hand Workshop, August, 1990, Richmond, Virginia

Keynote Speaker, Weatherspoon Art Gallery Opening Ceremony, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, November 19, 1989, Greensboro, North Carolina

Panelist, National Endowment for the Arts, Design Arts Overview Panel, September 7-9, 1989, Washington, D.C.

Conference Planner and Presenter, Public Art Dialogue=Southeast, June 8-11, 1989, Durham, North Carolina; published New Works: A Public Art Project Planning Guide with Patricia Fuller and the conference proceedings from Public Art Dialogue=Southeast

Three-Person Exhibition, Working Title: Pants, Vests and Shirts, North Carolina Museum of Art, April 15-June 25, 1989, Ann Shengold Guest Curator, Gallery Guide with introduction by Huston Paschal

Invited participant, The Orcas Conference: Creative Support for the Creative Artist, November, 1988, Seattle, Washington

Workshop Leader, Arts Management and Artist Opportunities, October, 1988, Penland School, Penland, North Carolina

On-site evaluator, National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Program, Visual Arts Organization category, September, 1988 (I generally reviewed craft organizations for the NEA such as the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, the Craft Alliance, SNAG, GAS, Surface Design Association, and Pewabic Pottery.)

Presenter, grants clinics for artists and organizations, throughout North Carolina, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990

Participant, Public Art in America, October, 1987, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Panelist, National Endowment for the Arts Visual Arts Program, Challenge II, Special Projects, and Challenge III grant categories, May-September, 1987, Washington, D.C.

Speaker, "Objects/Meaning/Artists/Communities," North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, Western Carolina University, July, 1987, Raleigh, North Carolina

Speaker, "Contemporary Artists in North Carolina and the Institutions Which Support Them," North Carolina-Moroccan Exchange, April, 1987, Marakech, Morocco

Panel moderator, "Trends and Challenges," North Carolina Potters Conference, April, 1987, Asheboro, North Carolina

Interviewer, "Annie Albers on Black Mountain College," UNC Center for Public Television, April, 1987, Orange, Connecticut

Invited participant, The Montauk Conference: Imaginary Needs: Creative Support for the Creative Artist, May, 1986, Montauk, New York