

THE
AFRICAN AMERICAN
HERITAGE & CULTURAL CENTER
OF NEW BERN
Post Office Box 1354, New Bern, NC 28563-1354

PRESS RELEASE

For Release Immediately

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See attached Bios and Headshots of Three Artists

The African American Heritage & Cultural Center of New Bern
JANUARY 11 COMMUNITY FORUM
Celebrating Three New Bern Artists: Chrystal Hood Fonville, Diamond
Nicole Campbell, and Crystal Isaacs

New Bern, North Carolina (January 3, 2020) - On Saturday, January 11, 2020 The African American Heritage & Cultural Center of New Bern presents its monthly COMMUNITY FORUMS celebrating local artists, writers and musicians. The January 11th COMMUNITY FORUM presents New Bern artists Chrystal Hood Fonville, Diamond Nicole Campbell, and Crystal Isaacs. AAHCC Art Curator Lee Hood has collaborated with the artists and coordinated the creations chosen for exhibits in “Gallery 919”. The COMMUNITY FORUM is 3:30 to 5:30 at the New Bern Arts & Wellness Center Gallery, 919 Broad Street, New Bern. The event is free to the community.

“The Center is in the heart of New Bern’s Five Points Neighborhood making them a good partner for AAHCC. Businesses and residents in Five Points actively link their neighborhood to fellow New Bernians” said Ann Herndon, AAHCC Vice President. “Kathy Adolph and I are very inspired as we coordinate the AAHCC’s monthly COMMUNITY FORUMS programs. Each features presentations local artists, musicians and writers. AAHCC presents COMMUNITY FORUMS every second Saturday free to the community with continuing support from our leadership, volunteers, donors and a grant from the Harold Bate Foundation.”

“Three amazing local artists are exhibited in Gallery 919” said Kathy Adolph, AAHCC Board Secretary. “Each artist will speak about the pieces on exhibit and answer questions from participants during the Forum. This January 11th program is part of AAHCC’s regular art programs which demonstrate our commitment to presenting Eastern North Carolina African American heritage and culture”. During alternate months’ COMMUNITY FORUMS will continue to present musicians, historians, and those who speak of the African American experience in Eastern North Carolina”.

The three presenters for the January 11th COMMUNITY FORUM are local artists. **Chrystal Hood Fonville** is a graphic artist who passion for art started as a child. Following graduation with a bachelor’s in Graphic Design, Chrystal settled in New Bern. She is featured in “A Brief History of Artists in Eastern North Carolina”. **Diamond Nicole Campbell** has been a private artist for 11 years doing murals, custom painted shoes, interior design and portraits. **Crystal Isaacs** discovered drawing as a fun way to express herself and be creative. Through the years,

she has used many media such as clay, yarn, plaster, acrylics, watercolor and wood burning. Acrylics have become her favorite medium.

The AAHCC partners with the New Bern Arts & Wellness Center, 919 Broad Street in the presentation of the monthly COMMUNITY FORUMS, every second Saturday.

ABOUT AAHCC

A strategic group of community leaders, elected officials and nonprofit organization leaders gathered early in 2018 to discuss the continuing need to increase the visibility of the heritage of eastern North Carolina's African American community. Beyond the recorded history of the region that is included in traditional educational environments exists an important legacy of remarkable and determined individuals who contributed to the development of this region.

These early AAHCC leaders established a North Carolina 501(c)(3) nonprofit to collaborate with existing nonprofits, organizations and groups and present a broad spectrum of the African American Experience. Future AAHCC programs will include developing an oral history library, and presenting FREE COMMUNITY FORUMS with creative performances, seminars and lectures, exhibitions of artwork including murals, artifacts and personal collections, along with music, food and live art events.

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The African American Heritage & Cultural Center of New Bern is a 501(c)(3) NC nonprofit organization based in New Bern and serving communities throughout Eastern North Carolina. Contact information: (mail) Post Office Box 1354, NBNC 28563-1354 or (email) TheCenterofNewBern@gmail.com.

**Images and Bios for Three Artists for publication
AAHCC Dec 14, 2019 COMMUNITY FORUM**

Chrystal Hood Fonville:



Chrystal Hood Fonville is a Graphic Designer from New Bern, North Carolina who has a lifelong passion for art. Whether it was painting on the walls as a child or drawing on the side of her lecture notes in College the gift was always there. In 2013 Chrystal took her passion further and graduated with a Bachelor's in Graphic Design. In 2014, Chrystal showcased her paintings in a local art show along with her brother which was a dynamic show showing versatility. In 2017, Chrystal landed her a feature in a book, "A Brief History of Artists in Eastern North Carolina". Today Chrystal resides in New Bern, North Carolina with her husband and two children still doing what she loves, art. And the journey continues.

Diamond Nicole Campbell:



Diamond Nicole Campbell is known as “Diamond Strokes” a passionate artist who discovered her gift of art at the age of six years old. During high school years, she began experimenting in different mediums and designs on different types of surfaces. She has been a private artist for 11 years doing anything from murals, custom painted shoes, interior design to portraits.

Crystal Isaacs:



At an early age, Crystal discovered drawing was a fun way to express herself and be creative. Through the years, she has used many media such as clay, yarn, plaster, acrylics, watercolor, and wood burning. Acrylics have become her favorite medium to use. Crystal's art often reflects her views on life, her childhood and her beautiful surroundings growing up in eastern Carolina.