

Deborah J. Murphy was born and raised in North Platte, Nebraska and received her B.A. in Art education from Kearney State College, (now the University of Nebraska-Kearney). She has been working as a professional artist since the early 1970s and has shown extensively around the mid west. She maintains a studio in Omaha, Nebraska and is an adjunct at Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, NE

She has shown her work on the national level. A partial listing of those exhibitions include:

- 2009 *National Juried Competition*, First Street Gallery, New York, New York
- 1999 *Realism in Detail* - Paramount Gallery, St. Cloud, MN
  - \* *The Kreft National* - Kreft Center for the Arts, Ann Arbor, MI
  - \* *Border to Border*- Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN, **Purchase Award**
- 1998 *Stockton National IX Print and Drawing Exhibition*, The Haggin Museum, Stockton, CA
- 1997 *Women's Caucus for Art Exhibition*, Artemesia Gallery, Chicago, IL
  - \* *26th Bradley National Print & Drawing Exhibition*, Bradley University, Peoria, ILAwarded the **Cullom-Davd Library Purchase Award**
- 1996 *Texas National 96* - Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacagdoches, TX
- 1995 *Reality Check* - Mesa Arts Center, Mesa, AZ
- 1993 *Paper in Particular* - Columbia College, Columbia, MO
  - \* *Scene and Unseen* - Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, NM
- 1992 *31st National Juried Art Exhibition* - Lincoln Center, Fort Collins, CO
- 1990 *Stage Ninety-Two* - Bismarck Art & Galleries Association, Bismarck, ND
- 1989 *Northern National Juried Art Exhibit*, Nicolet College Gallery, Rhinelander, WI
- 1987, 1988 *Galex 21 & 22* - Galesburg Civic Art Center, Galesburg, IL **Honorable Mention Award**
- 1983 *American Art Annual* - Middleton Fine Arts Center, Middleton, OH
- 1982 *Art Annual Three* - Oklahoma Art Center, Oklahoma City, OK

Also included in her exhibition history are selected One, Two or Three Person Shows, a partial listing of which is below.

- 2016 *Wood, Paper Graphite*, The ArtLoft Gallery, Omaha, NE
- 2010 *Sharing Space*, Sunderland Gallery, Cathedral Arts Project, Omaha, NE
- 2009 *LANDSCAPES*, Kiechel Fine Art, Lincoln, NE
- 2005 Great Plains Art Museum, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
- 2001 Norfolk Arts Center, Norfolk, NE
- 1999 Haydon Art Gallery, Lincoln, NE
- 1998 Governor's Mansion, Lincoln, NE
- 1995 Nordstrand Visual Arts Gallery, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE
- 1994 Anderson O'Brien Gallery, Omaha, NE
- 1992 Hitchcock Humanities Center, Bellevue College, Bellevue, NE
- 1991 Iowa Western Community College, Council Bluffs, IA
- 1985 Fine Arts Gallery, Creighton University, Omaha, NE
- 1984 University Place Art Center, Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE

#### **Museum exhibitions:**

- 2007 *Nebraska Now* - Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE

#### **Curated Exhibitions:**

- 2016 *Terra Firma - Selected Landscapes from the Musuem of Nebraska Art*, Gallery 1516, Omaha, NE
- 2006 *BIG: Art on a Grand Scale*, Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE
- 2002 *Women Artists From the MONA Collecton*, Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney

## Selected Invitationals

- 2018 *65+ - An Exhibition of Fine Art*, Gallery 1516, Omaha, NE  
2015 *Artist Invitational*, Sunderland Gallery, Cathedral Arts Project, Omaha, NE  
2014 *Survey: Omaha Artists*, Michael Phipps Gallery, Omaha, NE  
2013 *Group Show*, Arthaus, San Francisco, CA  
2012 *Symbiosis*, LUX Center for the Arts, Lincoln, NE  
2006 *SARAH 2006 GEORGE Art Auction*, Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE  
2005 *A Fresh Perspective, Recent Acquisitions and New Works*, Kiechel Fine Art, Lincoln, NE  
2003 *Paper Products*, Arthaus, San Francisco, CA  
• *Visions of the Prairie: The Great Plains at the Dawn of the Millennium* - Sheldon Museum of Art, Lincoln, NE,  
1997 *Summertime - A Group Exhibition*, Arthaus, San Francisco, CA  
1996 *Six Women in Nebraska* - Hillmer Art Gallery, College of St. Mary, Omaha, NE  
1994 *Picturing the Grasslands: Artists' Visions in Painting, Drawing and Photography* - Great Plains Art Collection, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE  
1990 *Of the Sky* - Center for Great Plains Studies Art Collection, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE  
• *National Contemporary Exposition of Artists of Achievement*, C.W. Post College, Long Island University, Brookvale, NY.  
1989 *Prairie Landscapes*, Spiva Art Center, Joplin, MO  
1987 *Farming the Heartland*, Reuben Saunders Gallery, Wichita, KS

## Selected Regional Juried Exhibitions

- 2017 *Nebraska Artist Biennial* - Gallery 1516, Omaha, NE  
2008, 1992, 1991 - *Juried Exhibition* - Sioux City Art Center, Sioux City, IA  
(1991, awarded *Juror's Honorable Mention*)  
2007 *Bridges* - Norfolk Art Center, Norfolk, NE **Best of Show**  
2006 & 1993 *Art in the Woods* - Overland Park Arts Commission, Overland Park, KS  
1994 & 1991 *Prairie Lights Showcase* - Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE  
(1991 - **Award of Merit**)  
1992 *River Market Regional Exhibition* - Kansas City Artists Coalition, Kansas City, MO  
**Juror's Merit Award**  
1989 *The Missouri River - A Centennial Exhibition* - Dahl Fine Arts Center, Rapid City, SD  
• T.J. Majors Art Exhibit - Peru State College, Peru, NE **Purchase Award**  
1988 *38th Spiva Annual* - Spiva Art Center, Joplin, MO **Third Place Award**  
1987 *Central States Exhibition '87* - Pratt Community College, Pratt, KS  
• *Omaha Landmarks Show* - Omaha, NE - **Honorable Mention Award**  
• *Fred Wells II* - Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE  
**Grumbacher Bronze Medallion - Best Painting**  
1986 *Reflections 1986* - Norfolk Art Center, Norfolk, NE **Best of Show**  
1985 *The Octagon Clay & Paper Show* - Octagon Center for the Arts, Ames, IA  
1984 *18th Joslyn Biennial* - Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE  
• *Fred Wells 8* - Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln, NE **Purchase Award**

Web Site: <http://www.deborah-june-murphy.com>

### Awards:

- 2000 - 2002 United States Department of State *Art in Embassies* Program -  
One painting selected to be exhibited at the Ambassador's residence in Tirana, Albania
- 1998 Nebraska Arts Council *Distinguished Achievement Fellowship Grant*
- 1994 Mid-American Arts Alliance/National Endowment for the Arts  
*Fellowship Award in Painting and Works on Paper*

### Featured:

- 2014 Image chosen for the Metropolitan Community College, Visual Arts Faculty Calendar
- 2008 "Gallery View" - feature article, "*ONE - Omaha's Lifestyle Magazine*", April 2008
- 2006 "local color" - feature article, *lifestyle, LINCOLN*, Summer issue
- 2005 "Subtle Beauty" - feature article, *Nebraska Life* magazine, May/June 2005
- 2009 Kiechel Fine Art "AMERICAN PERSPECTIVES", Page 97
- 2003 Contributing Artist, *Western American Literature*, Summer 2003,  
Utah State University, Logan, UT
- 2001 Image chosen for "Holiday Greetings", Great Plains Art Collection, University of NE, Lincoln
- 1997 Image chosen for the Landscapes Calendar, Nebraska Public Power District
- 1995 Drawing featured on cover of *The Nebraska Review*, Spring/Summer 1995,  
published by the University of Nebraska, Omaha
- 1988 *IMPACT: The Art of Nebraska Women*, Page 70  
In conjunction with the book publication, an exhibition of artwork by *IMPACT* artists opened in  
May at the Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney, NE to begin a national tour which continued  
through 1990.

### Listed:

2012 to present *Who's Who in American Art*

### Selected University/Public Collections featuring Deborah J. Murphy work:

• Women's Center for Advancement, *Omaha, NE* • National Indemnity, *Omaha, NE* • University of Nebraska Medical Center, *Omaha, NE* • Farm Credit Bureau, *Omaha, NE* • UN-K Health Sciences Education Building, *Kearney, NE* • Methodist HealthWest, *Omaha, NE* • BKD, LLP, *Lincoln, NE* • Elkhorn Valley Bank, *Norfolk, NE* • Austin Peay State University, *Clarksville, TN* • Bradley University, *Peoria, IL* • Wayne State College, *Wayne, NE* • H & R Block, *Kansas City, MO* • City of Lincoln, *Lincoln, NE* • People's National Bank, *Council Bluffs, IA* • Charles Vrana & Son, *Omaha, NE* • Sioux City Art Center, *Sioux City, IA* • Woods Aitken Law Firm, *Lincoln, NE* • Union Bank & Trust, *Lincoln, NE* • Farm Bureau of Lancaster County, *Lincoln, NE* • Peter Kiewit Foundation, *Omaha, NE* • Great Plains Art Collection, *Lincoln, NE* • Robert O'Byrne & Associates, *Kansas City, MO* • Peru State College, *Peru, NE* • Chapman Commodities, *Omaha, NE* • 1st National Bank, *Omaha, NE* • Merchants National Bank, *Cedar Rapids, IA* • Papio Natural Resources District, *Omaha, NE* • College of St. Mary, *Omaha, NE* • Security National Bank, *Omaha, NE* • Omaha Airport Authority, *Omaha, NE* • ValCom, *Omaha, NE* • Wesleyan University, *Lincoln, NE*

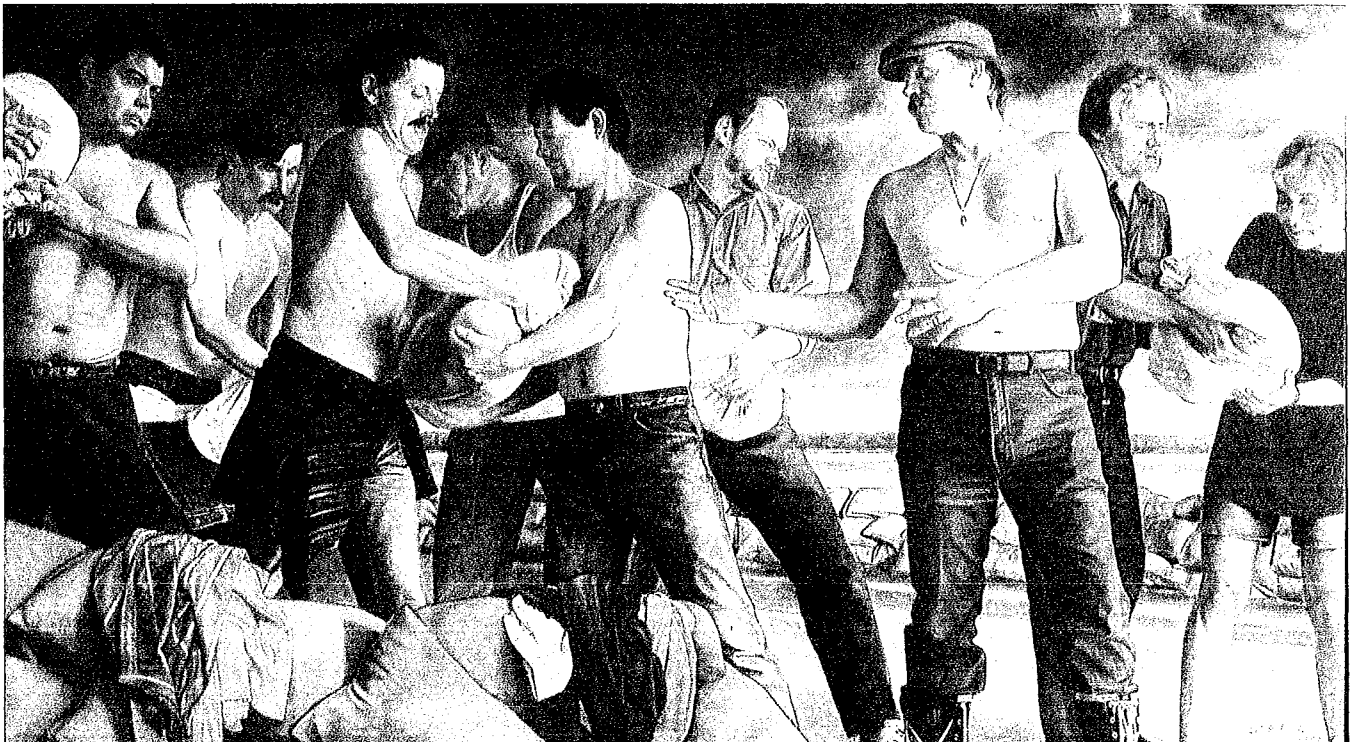
### Public Commissions:

- 2003 2 drawings - Hilton Hotel Convention Center, Omaha, NE
- 2001 4 drawings - Allwine Hall/Arts and Sciences Building Renovation Project,  
University of Nebraska at Omaha
- 2000 3 drawings - Norfolk Veteran's Home, Norfolk, NE

What distinguishes this individual from others in the same field and why she would be an inspiration for future alumni?

Deborah has generously donated proceeds from the sale of her work to benefit various causes such as:

- The LUX Center for the Arts, Lincoln, Nebraska
- Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, Nebraska
- Girl Scouts of Nebraska
- Bemis Center for the Arts, Omaha, Nebraska
- The Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, Nebraska
- The Sioux City Art Center, Sioux City, Iowa
- Most recently she donated a drawing, selected by her classmates, to the Prairie Arts Center, North Platte, Nebraska in honor of the Class of 1968, during the 50th Reunion of the class.
- She has been a mentor with the TeamMates program for nearly 20 years.
- She is a regular blood donor for the American Red Cross and recently was awarded a 10 Gallon pin.
- She has been a mentor/educator to many Metropolitan Community College (Omaha, NE) art students who have taken her Beginning/Elementary Drawing class over the last 17 years.
- She has donated her time as a Board member for her neighborhood association since 1990, serving as Communications Person for the last 20 years.
- She served as a model for one of the State Capitol murals “The Scourge of Famine” in Lincoln, Nebraska, painted by renowned Nebraska artist, Stephen Cornelius Roberts (see below). The image of this NPHS graduate will be forever immortalized in the capitol dome.



*The Scourge of Famine* [capitol.org/building/rooms/memorial-chamber](http://capitol.org/building/rooms/memorial-chamber)