

Joy Okokon

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Springfield, MO

<https://joyokokon.com>

Education

- 2022 - Excepted date of Graduation, May 2025
MFA Visual Studies Candidate, Missouri State University,
Springfield, MO
- 2021 MA in Art, Department of Art, Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL
- 2018 BA in Industrial Arts, Ceramics, Department of Industrial Art, Kwame
Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana

Exhibitions

Solo

- 2024 *Cultural Significance of Hair Braiding in Nigeria*, Roots & Rhythm Tales
from Africa (Outdoor event) Missouri State University, Springfield MO
- Go back and Fetch*, 2024 United Efik National Convention, Lansing MI
- 2023 *Ethnic Identity*, Tour of the Globe, Regional, Jim Morris Center, Springfield,
MO
- 2018 *BA Thesis Exhibition*, Industrial Art Ceramics Gallery, International,
KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana

Two Person

- 2013 *GAG Clothing line*, Ceramic Jewelry Exhibition, and sales, Silverbird Mall,
Abuja, Nigeria.
- 2009 *Jewelry Exhibition*, Agura Hotel, Abuja, Nigeria

Group

- 2025 *NCECA Student Exhibition*, Juried, Utah Museum of Contemporary Art, UT.
Nicole Seisler and Adrienne Eliades (Juror). (forthcoming)
- 2024 *Student Exhibition*, Juried, Carolla Exhibition Center, Springfield MO
- NCECA Student Exhibition*, Juried, Visual Arts Center of Richmond VA
April Felipe and Jennifer Zwilling (Juror).

- 2023 *Small Works Synchronous*, Iowa Lakes Community College, Estherville IA
- Collective / Differences*, Obelisk Gallery, Springfield, MO
- Student Award*, The Seward Johnson Atelier, Juried, Hamilton, NJ
- 3rd Annual Show Your Color*, Creamery Art Center, Regional, Springfield, MO
- Off Center – An International Ceramic Art Competition*, Blue Line Arts, Juried, Roseville CA
- Within – Without Exhibition*, Glenn Hild Student Art Gallery, Charleston, IL
- Juried Student Exhibition*, Brick City Gallery, Springfield, MO
- 2022 *Make to know*, Brick City Gallery, Springfield, MO
- Mo-Ky Mud 2: A Collaborative Exhibition of Contemporary Ceramics*, Corolla Arts and Exhibition Center, Invited, Springfield, MO.
- Mattoon Art Works*, Ceramic Jewelry Exhibition, and sales, Mattoon Art and Council, Mattoon IL
- Clas-Spring Fest*, Ceramic Jewelry Exhibition, and sales, Doudna, Fine Art Center, Charleston IL
- What Are You Thinking*, Tarble Art Center, Charleston, IL
- Open House Exhibition*, Graduate studio, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL
- 2018 *Unveiling the Art in Nature*, Industrial Art Ceramics Gallery, Kumasi, Ghana

Scholarships, Grants and Awards

- 2024 2024 Kaabo Clay Awardee at the 4th Annual Kaabo Award for Black Ceramicists in Sarasota, FL. \$2500
- Juried Student Exhibition Award, Best Graduate, Carolla Exhibition Center, Springfield MO. Steve Snell (Juror). \$100
- 2024 NCECA Juried Student Exhibition, Studio Potter Merit Award, Visual Arts Center of Richmond VA. April Felipe and Jennifer Zwilling (Jurors).

Nominated for the Judy Award, Reynolds College, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

2023 Thesis Funding Award, Graduate College, Missouri State University, Springfield MO, \$500

Nominated for the Judy Award, Reynolds College, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

Arrowmont + Windgate Foundation Scholarship Award, Gatlinburg, TN, to attend Indigo Adire workshop. \$400

Student Achievement Funding Award, Reynolds College of Art and Letters, Springfield, MO, \$400

RCASH Student Achievement Funding Award, Art and Design Department, Springfield, MO, \$400

2022 Outstanding Student Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Award, International, Sculpture Center, Juried, International, Hamilton, New Jersey (270 Student nominated, 570 images of sculpture, 13 awardees)

Teaching Experience

2024 - Ceramics Foundation, Instructor of Record, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

Highschool workshop, 3D foundation, Art and Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield MO (Forthcoming- April)

2022 - 2023 3D foundation, Instructor of Record, Art and Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

2021 - 2022 Art Foundation, Teaching Assistant, Doudna Art Center, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL

2015 Bead- Making Course, Instructor, Tabitha Women Empowerment, Abuja, Nigeria,

2014 Art and Craft Summer School, instructor, Premier International School, Abuja, Nigeria, (June – July)

Pedagogy Art Exhibition

2024 *2024 Foundation Exhibition*, Brick City Gallery, Springfield MO

2022 *Introduction to Art Spring Exhibition*, Glenn Hild Gallery, Charleston IL

Professional Experience

- 2024 - Secretary, West African Student Association, Missouri State University, Springfield MO
- President, Clay works Student Association, Missouri State University, Springfield MO
- Ceramic Studio Technician, Art and Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield MO
- Engagement Manager, Graduate Student of Visual Studies Organization, Art & Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield MO
- 2023 Gallery Assistant, Carolla Art Exhibition Center, Springfield, MO, (January – December)
- 2022 Gallery Assistant, Brick City Gallery, Springfield, MO, (August – December)

Research Engagement

Workshops, Lectures, and Conferences attended:

- 2024 NCECA Coalescence, Conference, Richmond VA
- 14th Annual Everson Ceramic Arts Lecture, Sana Musasama, Everson, Museum of Art
- 2023 Angelica Pozo, Lecture, Zoom meeting via Ceramic Exchange with Women in Ghana (CEWIG)
- Linda Thompson, Lecture, Zoom meeting via Ceramic Exchange with Women in Ghana (CEWIG)
- International Sculpture Center, Conference, Hamilton, NJ
- Adeyemo Textile Workshop, Arrowmont School of Art and Craft, Gatlinburg, TN
- Batik Making Workshop, Nike Art Gallery, Abuja, Nigeria

Linda Hair Artistry, Workshop, Utako Plaza, Abuja Nigeria

Britt Ransom, Lecture, Jay Wasson Idea Loft, Springfield, MO

Selina Trepp, Lecture, Jay Wasson Idea Loft, Springfield, MO

2022 NCECA Current, Conference, Cincinnati, OH

Micha Cardenas, Zoom Lecture, Doudna Fine Art Center, Charleston, IL

2021 Rafel E. Vera, Artist Lecture, Tarble Art Center, Charleston, IL
Touch me, A Flat File Exhibition, Tarble Art Center, Charleston, IL

Yoko Ono, Mend Piece, Organized by the American Federation of Art,
Tarble Art Center, Charleston, IL

Professional Service

2024 Volunteer, NCECA Coalescence, Richmond VA

2023 Volunteer, NCECA Current, Cincinnati, OH

Volunteer, STEM Awareness, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

Volunteer, Clay works Christmas sales, Art and Design department, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

Volunteer, Tour of the Globe, International Student Services, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

2022 - 2023 Vice President, Graduate Student of Visual Studies Organization, Art & Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

2022 Volunteer, Tour of the Globe, International Student Services, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

Volunteer, Clay works Christmas sales, Art and Design department, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

Lectures and Demonstrations

2024 Moderator, Past Present Future, Ceramic Exchange for Women in Ghana (CEWIG), Virtual meeting.

Roundtable Discussion, 19th Triennial Symposium of African Art, *A Ghanaian-United States Nexus in Art Pedagogy and Practice*, Art institute of Chicago and DePaul University Conference Center, IL (Forthcoming)

Arts Lecture, Ceramic Exchange for Women in Ghana (CEWIG), Virtual meeting.

2023 Panel discussion, Teaching Pedagogy class, Art & Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO.

8th Annual 3MT Competition, Top Tier Four - Reynolds College of Arts and Letters, Missouri State University, Springfield MO

8th Annual 3MT Competition, Top Tier Five - Arts and Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

2022 7th Annual 3MT Competition, Top Tier Four - Reynolds College of Arts and Letters, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

7th Annual 3MT Competition, Top Tier Five - Arts and Design Department, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

Panel discussion, Within – Without Exhibition, Glenn Hild Student Art Gallery, Charleston, IL

Arts Lecture, Latino /a/x Art, The Multicultural Resource Center, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

2018 Instructor, Bead – Making Course, Tabitha Woman Empowerment, Abuja, Nigeria (June – July)

Donation

2024 Contributed artwork to “Artaxis and Ceramic Exchange for Women in Ghana (CEWIG)” raising over \$5,000 to purchase art supply for Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi GH.

Contributed artwork to “Kaabo Clay Collectives” raising over \$12,000, for the 2024 Kaabo Award fundraiser for Black Artist.

Publication

2024 Joy Okokon, “Exploration of Surface Decoration to Enhance the Value of Indigenous Ghanaian Pottery” *Scholars Journal of Arts, Humanities and Social Science*, 2018; 6(7): 1459-1464. DOI: 10.21276/sjahss.2018.6.7.16

Bibliography

- 2024 Joy Okokon, Unified Efik National Convention Magazine, Pg 66 – 67, July 2024
- Joy Okokon, NCECA Coalescence Juried Student Magazine, Pg 182-183, March 2024
- 2023- Joy Okokon, Kaboo Clay Collectives,
<https://www.kaaboclay.org/directory>
- Joy Okokon, *Show Your Colors*, Springfield Regional Arts Council March 2022 - <https://www.springfieldarts.org/show-your-colors/>
- Joy Okokon, 2022, *Outstanding Student, Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Award*, Sculpture, Vol 24/no 1, January / February 2023, Page 12
- 2022- Joy Okokon, *Life and Work with Joy Okokon*, Voyage Ohio, August 2023, Bibliography
- <https://voyageohio.com/interview/life-work-with-joy-okokon-of-springfield-mo/>
- Joy Okokon, *Black artist making magic*, The Daily Eastern News, Vol.106 | No.77, February 2022, Page 4

Membership

- 2024 - Art Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA)
- 2023 - Kaabo Clay Collectives
- 2022 - Ceramic Exchange with Women in Ghana (CEWIG)
- International Sculpture Center (ISC), Hamilton, NJ
- National Council on Education for Ceramics Arts (NCECA), Boulder, CO
- 2021- Nka Ima Obio Efik Inc, Reno / Lake Tahoe

References

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