

# Dawn Behrens

## **EXHIBITIONS/PUBLICATIONS**

**Artistonish – April 2021 edition to be published in May 2021** (contemporary art magazine published by "Discover the Artist") – Juried Publication

"Re-cycling Plant" (Word Play sculpture series)

Mixed Media 3D Sculpture

12"H x 12"W x 12"D

**Paseo Arts & Creativity Center, Paseo Arts Association, Oklahoma City, OK**

March 2021 Show - in honor of Women's History Month

Juried Exhibition

March 5 - March 27, 2021

"The Fragile Juggler" (COVID-19 Heroes sculpture series)

Polymer Clay Sculpture w/Acrylic

7"H x 8"W x 4.5"D

**Modella Art Gallery, Stillwater, OK**

"Faces of COVID"

Juried Exhibition

January 14 - February 14, 2021

"Custodians/Housekeepers" (COVID-19 Heroes sculpture series)

Polymer Clay Sculpture

6"H x 4.5"W x 4.5"D

"Food Service Workers" (COVID-19 Heroes sculpture series)

Polymer Clay Sculpture

7.5"H x 4.5"W x 4.5"D

## **EXPERIENCE**

**Contract Virtual Teacher for Children**

Subjects including: Poetry Writing, Reading & Comprehension, Clay Sculpture, Acrylic Painting and other subjects

September 2020 – Present

**Art Department, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK**

Administrative Assistant

2012-2017

**Author & Photographic Illustrator**

Children's Picture Book series: <https://www.amazon.com/author/dawnbehrens>

"Benjamin Boo Real Super Hero"

"Benjamin Boo and the Cranky Crocodile"

"Benjamin Boo Plays Hide-and-Seek With You"

"Benjamin Boo Paints"

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/MEDIA**

OVAC – Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, Oklahoma City, OK

PAA – Paseo Arts Association, Oklahoma City, OK

<http://www.dawnbehrensart.com>

## **EDUCATION**

**Oklahoma State University**

Degree: MA Theatre

**University of Central Oklahoma**

Degree: BS, LA&S—

English and Oral Communications

04//2021

(405) 821-8800 (cell)

3309 ½ S. West St., Stillwater, OK 74074

dawnbehrensart@gmail.com

**DAWN BEHRENS****ARTIST STATEMENT:**

As an emerging later-in-life (70 years young) artist, I started sculpting in November 2020 while sheltering-at-home from the pandemic. Inspiration for my art comes from a continuing curiosity about life around me and alternative ways of responding to life now. My goal with each piece is to show different perspectives and spark imagination and thought in the observer.

“The Fragile Juggler” is part of my “COVID-19 Heroes” sculpture series. “The Fragile Juggler” is juggling home, family, work, COVID-19, and a dwindling income while government support is bending and broken. But the juggler keeps juggling.

The representational body form and use of multi-color clay expresses that they may be any gender, any race, any age. However, statistics tell us that women are the main ones who have lost jobs or had to be home with children during the pandemic. I, especially, think of the Single Mothers who have been affected.

The mask is black to represent the deadly virus that they must guard against with reference to lung damage like damage caused by black lung disease. Since the masks cover the mouth and most of the face, they symbolize that many had no voice or choice in the matter. The red base represents the life blood that they give metaphorically while they are juggling everything and the literal lives that some have lost after being struck by the COVID-19 Virus. The three poles (red, white, and blue) represent the bending and broken government support that affected individuals and families so critically in the first months of the pandemic.

<https://www.dawnbehrensart.com/>