

INTERNAL NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (10/9/2025)

Vernon Filley Art Museum adds work by renowned Kansas Artist to Permanent Collection

Acquisition Of Art For The Permanent Collection:

The Vernon Filley Art Museum Staff and Board of Directors are proud to announce the exciting addition of Shawn Marie Delker's new piece "Home Sweet Home" to the permanent collection.

Collections Committee Members Dr. Harlan Shinkle, Dr. Mike Westerhaus, Lisa Perez-Miller, Larry Kahmeyer, Doug Brehm, Brittany Novotny-Vernon Filley Art Museum Executive Director, and Sara Keith-Vernon Filley Education and Collections Manager met on Monday September 8th to review this piece for its placement in the Dr Vernon and Emily "Mimi" Filley Permanent collection.



The first piece of the 2025 Acquisition year is a unique thread painted landscape. Shawn Delker's "Home Sweet Home" is currently on display as a part of the Ninnescah Art Exhibit at the Vernon Filley North Gallery. Shawn remarked, "I celebrate the beauty of Kansas and the Pratt area in particular with this whimsical work."

This remarkable work in the fiber arts medium marks the first of its kind to join our permanent collection. Visitors are often astonished by Shawn's masterful technique, layering thread with the precision and depth of a painter's brush. We are honored to preserve and share this extraordinary piece as part of our collection.



Fiber artist Shawn Marie Delker learned the joy of sewing from her mother beginning at age five and has been stitching ever since. She began quilting in 2000, and she soon discovered "art quilting". Her work uses an embroidery technique she is developing in which she "paints with thread" on her sewing machine. Her technique is unique to her because she uses heavily stabilized fabric and manipulates this under her needle to draw and shade creating many layers of thread. She continues to experiment to create new ways to create shape, form, and texture with thread.

Shawn's art has been juried into galleries in Topeka, Omaha and Albuquerque, and she is a frequent exhibitor at many local galleries. She received the third-place prize at the 2017 Fiber Arts Fiesta in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and in 2024 she won First Place in "Kansas Through the Eyes of an Artist" at the Carriage Factory Gallery and Best of Show in the NOTO Fiber Arts Passion's Exhibition and again in 2024 was awarded People's Choice at the "Music and Memory" exhibit at NOTO's Morris Gallery. Her latest exhibit was a solo show titled, "On the Edge" which was on display at the Vernon Filley Art Gallery. Her art is represented at the SNW gallery in Manhattan Kansas.

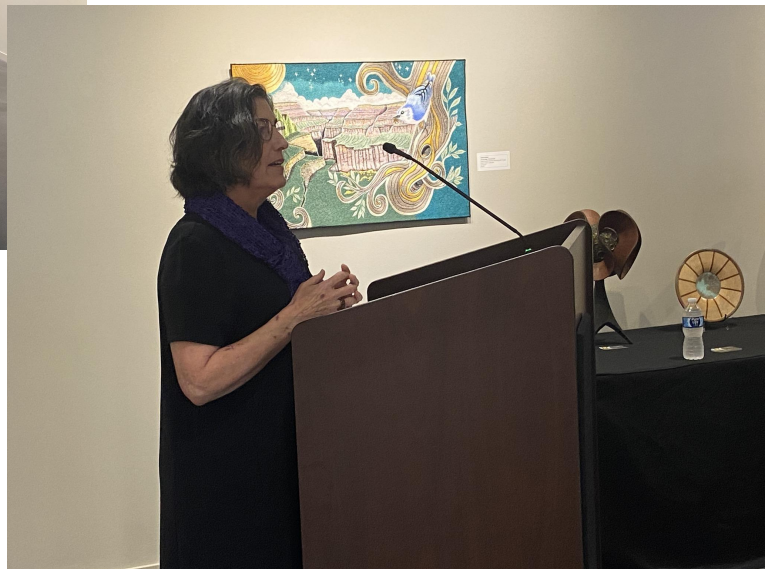
"Collecting and preserving artwork for the community and our future is a key part of our Mission at the Filley. When we can highlight a Kansas Artist and expand the diversity of our collection, we're not only honoring exceptional skill and talent– we're enriching the cultural fabric of our region", said Sara

Keith, Collections and Education manager. "We anticipate acquiring a few more works before the fiscal year's end and look forward to keeping our community informed and involved as our collection grows." We encourage you to visit before the end of October to view this exceptional piece currently on display. If you're unable to make it now, rest assured it will remain part of our collection for posterity.

Shawn's website is:

www.shawndelker.art

or you can follow her on Facebook at: Shawn Delker



Pictured above: Shawn Marie Delker Presenting at her recent Filley Exhibit Opening Reception for " On the Edge," painting with thread on May 3rd, 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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