

VITA

Personal: Born October 17, 1946 – Hartford, Connecticut

Personal Objective: Professor of Art

Education: Undergraduate: Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee **BA 1964 -**
1968 Major- Art Minor- Math

Graduate: Howard University, Washington, D.C. **MFA 1968 –**
1970

Other: Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture – Summer,
1969

Positions Held:

Freelance Visual Artist Commissions for institutions and individuals, indoor and outdoor 1968 - Present

Artist / Technician Howard University (while studying there). October, 1968 – June, 1970
Washington, D.C.

Instructor Fisk University (Art History, Art Appreciation, Painting and Drawing) 1970 – 71
Nashville, Tennessee

Substitute Math teacher Fox Middle School, Hartford Board of Education 1971 - 72
Hartford, Connecticut

Artist in Residence/ Teacher Co- founded and Developed the S.A.N.D. Art Studio (after school art program) 1973 - 78
South Arsenal Neighborhood Development Corporation

Instructor Greater Hartford Community College (Art History and Humanities) 1978 – 79
Hartford, Connecticut

Freelance Visual Artist Commissions for individuals and institutions 1968 - Present

Commissions:

Mural – *Genesis of the Capital City*- 68'x 110' , oil on sheet steel, downtown Hartford
January, 1973

Mural/ Sculpture – *Welcome to Blue Hills* – Two outdoor Kiosks, Aluminum and Cedar
1981

Portrait – Honorable Thurman Milner, Mayor of Hartford, CT (Official Portrait)
1982

Mural/Sculpture – *Welcome to Clay Hill* – One outdoor Kiosk, Aluminum and Cedar

1985 **Portrait** – Honorable C.S. Perry, Mayor of Hartford, CT (Official Portrait)

1989 **3 Murals** – *Principals of Organization* – Aetna Life & Casualty Insurance Company corporate headquarters

1989 **Murals** – *Knowledge and Skill* – A.I. Prince Technical School cafeteria w/ serving area

1991 **Canvas** – *Hope for the 21st Century* – Urban League of Greater Hartford (for cover of major book)

1993 **Canvas/ Poster** - *Reflections of You and Me* – W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, Michigan

1994 **Canvas** – *Lake Scape* - Phoenix Insurance Company – Albany, N.Y.

1997 **Canvas** – *Pond Scape* - Phoenix Insurance Company conference center, Avon, CT

1998 **Murals** – *Imagination* – Clark Elementary School cafeterias (2)

1999 **Murals** – *Purple* – Octagon Club, Hartford, CT (entire club)

2000 **Mural** – *Connecticut industry* – Debut Exhibition, University of Hartford, Museum of American Political Life

2004 **Mural** – *Spring* – Comet Diner, Hartford, CT

2004 **2 Murals** – Mystic Museum, Mystic, CT

2005 **12 Murals** – Howard Johnson Hotel, Windsor Locks, CT

2005 - 2006 **Mural** – Concetta's Restaurant, Bloomfield, CT

2009

Notable Projects: **Painted Billboards** – Fisk University under supervision of writer Arna Bontemps

1966 – 1968 **Illustration** – Homecoming brochure cover, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee

1967 **Illustration** – Homecoming Brochure cover, Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee

1968 **Touring Mural** - *Connecticut Industry* -

2002 **Scenic Painting** – Dunkin' Donuts Kiosk, Dodge Music Theater, Hartford, CT

2005

Mural Restoration – 3 Murals, Parker Memorial Recreation Center

2009

Exhibition Activities: First Annual Fine Arts Exhibition, Fisk University, Nashville, TN

1968 **Paintings** – *Open Window, Music in Red and Studio Sink*
First Annual Congregation Art Show, Unitarian Society of Hartford

1968

Paintings – *Winter Sunset*
 Student Exhibition, Howard University
 Painting - *Creation of an Angel*
 Student Exhibition, Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture
 1969
 Paintings – *The Summoning, Persecution & Conservatism, The Three ages of man*
 (triptych)
 One Man Show – Central Michigan University
 1970
 Paintings included *The Dance of life* (Masters thesis subject)
 1970
 Joint Faculty Exhibition – Faculties of Fisk Univ, Vanderbilt Univ, and Peabody
 1971
 Two man Show, National Center for African American Artists, Dorchester,
 Massachusetts 1975
 Painting – *The Prophecy*
 Display of one painting – *Persecution and Imperialism, The Municipal Building(city hall)*,
 Hartford, CT 1976
 Display of *Connecticut Industry Mural* – University of Hartford, Museum of American Political
 Life 2004
 Display of *Connecticut Industry Mural* – Connecticut State Museum
 2006
 Display of *Connecticut Industry Mural* – University of Connecticut, Library
 2007

Related Activities: Two Part Lecture – Position of Black Visual Artist in Contemporary United States – Trinity
 College 1973
 Lecture – Loomis – Chaffee preparatory school
 1973
 Artist – in Residence, Weaver High School, Hartford, CT
 1973 - 74
 Lecture – Warburton Chapel, Hartford, CT
 1974
 Mexico – Journey to see murals and related art – close study
 1975
 Africa, Asia, Middle East and Europe – Sabbatical
 1976 - 1977
 Two Part Lecture – Mural class of Rudolf Zalinger, University of Hartford Art
 School 1988
 Gallery talk – Connecticut Industry Mural – University of Hartford
 2004

Michael Borders is a muralist,

illustrator, painter of formal portraits and the producer of a long line of original ideas for institutions and individuals. His images have been seen on buildings, small and large, indoors and out, on albums and compact disks, in book illustrations, coloring books and posters, living rooms, night clubs, cafeterias, elementary schools, universities and churches. He has lectured at Fisk University, Trinity College and the University of Hartford among others.

A lifelong resident of Connecticut, Michael Borders is happily married, has two children and lives in Bloomfield, Connecticut. He has been a member of the Unitarian Society of Hartford since childhood.