

KENT ESTEY

Contemporary Multi-Medium Anishinaabe Artist & Author

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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Featured Artist, "***Mino-Bimaadiziwin, The Good Life***", Red Door Gallery, Wahpeton, ND
- 2025 "***Mino-Bimaadiziwin, The Good Life***", Bagley Area Arts Collective, Bagley, MN
- 2024 Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN
- 2023 "***Endanakiyaan***" Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, MN
- 2023 Easter Lutheran Church, Eagan, MN
- 2023 Detroit Lakes Public Library, Detroit Lakes, MN
- 2022 Circles of Faith United Church of Christ, Waubun, MN
- 2022 Gizhiigin Arts Incubator, Mahnomen, MN
- 2022 New York Mills Cultural Center, July 2022
- 2022 "***Hope and Healing***," Macrosite Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN
- 2020 "***At This Present Moment***," Gizhiigin Arts Incubator and Saint Paul and Minneapolis Foundation
- 2019 Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, St. Paul, Minnesota

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 "***Shared Horizons***", Red Door Gallery Presents White Earth Artists: Red Door Gallery, Wahpeton, ND
- 2025 "***Contemporary Anishinaabe Art: A Continuation***", Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, MI
- 2025 "***Mino-bimaadiziwin, The Good Life***": Bloomington Center for the Arts, Bloomington, MN
- 2025 ***We Tell Our Stories***: Unitarian Church, St. Paul, MN
- 2025 ***Shared Visions***: Art Project 605, Detroit Lakes, MN
- 2025 ***Plain of Stars***: University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND
- 2024 ***Native American Exhibition***: Red Door Gallery, Wahpeton, ND
- 2024 ***Red Cloud Indian Art Show***: Pine Ridge, SD
- 2024 ***Members Art Show***: Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2024 ***Naytahwaush: Faces, Stories and Artists***, Gizhiigin Arts Incubator, Mahnomen, MN
- 2024 "***Okizi***" – All My Relations, Minneapolis, MN
- 2023 "***Cattails & Birches***" Dr. Robert Powless Cultural Center (AICHO), Duluth, MN
- 2022 Adult Regional Art Show: "***When the Work is Done***". New York Mills Regional Cultural Center
- 2022 ***Native American Exhibition***: Red Door Gallery, Wahpeton, North Dakota
- 2022 ***Members Art Show***: Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2021 ***We Are Still Here***: Friedle Gallery and Studio, St. Paul, Minnesota
- 2021 Art Project 605, Inaugural Show "***Wild***": Featured Artist
- 2021 NorthStar Watermedia Society Newsletter: Featured Artist
- 2021 ***Anji'Bide Changing our Paths Virtual Art Show***: Gizhiigin Arts Incubator, Mahnomen, Minnesota
- 2020 Region 2 Arts Board Members Showcase: Watermark Art Gallery, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2019 ***Members Art Show***: Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2019 ***We Are Still Here!***: Featured Artist, Landmark Gallery, St. Paul, Minnesota
- 2019 ***Changing Horizons***: Featured Artist, Two Rivers Galleries, Minneapolis, Minnesota

2019 **Madwewe-It is Heard** featured Artist; Miikanan Gallery, Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota

2018 Northwest Indian Community Development Center: Bemidji, Minnesota

2018 First Friday Art Walk -Northwest Indian Community Development Center, Bemidji, Minnesota

2017 **Aazhoomon Indigenous Art Exhibit**: Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota

2017 Andy Morris Art Extension: Online Group, Featured Artist

CURATED EXHIBITS

2026 **Minwaajimowinan-Good Stories** Generational Artists and Stories from the Village of Naytahwaush. Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, MN January 2026 - April 2026

2025 **Shared Horizons:** Manoomin Arts Initiative takes over the Red Door Gallery in Wahpeton, ND November 2025

2024 **MAZINAATEBIISHIN:** “It is Reflected in the Water Emerging Artist Exhibition
Featuring Eliza Klarer and Jakob Littlewolf, December 2024 – February 2025

2024 **Naytahwaush: Faces, Stories, and Artists**, featuring 40 artists from the village of Naytahwaush, Minnesota. May – August 2024.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

2025 Region 2 Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Fellowship 2025-2026

2024 Red Cloud Indian Art Show, Second Place, Pine Ridge, SD

2023 Region 2 Artist Fellowship for 2023-2024

2023 Minnesota State Arts Board Creative Support for Individuals Grant

2022 Waterers Organization Financial Gift

2020 We Art Still Here! People’s Choice 2nd Place, Saint Paul, MN

EDUCATIONAL ARTIST TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

2025 Perham Schools Artist Lecture Series, Perham, MN

2025 Kadatz Gallery Artist Lecture Series, Fergus Falls, MN

2025 Heartland Arts Charter School: Park Rapids, MN

2025 From Nothing: Unity Church, St. Paul, MN (Wellspring Wednesday) Talk

2025 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Cormorant Area Arts Association Annual Dinner

2025 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Minnesota Library Association Conference

2025 “From Nothing”: MdW Itasca Gathering: Opening Presentation

2025 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Community Collaborative Brain Conference, Keynote Speaker, Mahnomen, MN

2024 Mahnomen Historical Society: Black Ash Basketry Stories of “Ma”

2024 Tribal Memories: Bagley Elementary School Staff Inservice, Bagley, MN

2024 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Ash Basketry, Rail River School, Bemidji, MN

2024 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Lunch and Learn: White Earth Public Health

2024 Artist Panel: “**Okizi**” – All My Relations, Minneapolis, MN

2024 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN

2023 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Easter Lutheran Church, Eagan, MN

2022 Tribal Memories: Macrosite Art Center, Grand Rapids, MN

2021 Tribal Memories: NorthStar Watermedia Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota

2019 Picking Sweetgrass with Ma: Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, MN

BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATIONAL INSTALLMENTS

- 2025 White Earth Tribal and Community College, Mahnomen, MN
- 2024 Waabigwan Mashkiki, Mahnomen, MN
- 2024 Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN
- 2024 Sanford Center, Bemidji, MN
- 2024 Aluma Cares, Ada, MN
- 2023 White Earth Mental Health, White Earth, MN
- 2023 Indian Health Service, Naytahwaush, MN
- 2023 Mahube-Otwa Services, Mahnomen, MN
- 2023 American Indian Community Housing Organization, Duluth, MN

EVENTS & ART FESTIVALS

- 2025 Woodland Indian Art Festival, Oneida, WI
- 2025 Unity-Unitarian Church, St. Paul, MN
- 2025 Pangea Festival, Fargo, North Dakota
- 2025 Watermark Art Festival, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2025 Hackensack Art and Book Festival, Hackensack, Minnesota
- 2025 Detroit Lakes Street Faire, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
- 2025 Indigenous Art Festival, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota
- 2024 Fargo Moorhead Studio Crawl, Fargo, North Dakota
- 2024 Park Rapids Art Leap, Park Rapids, Minnesota
- 2024 Detroit Lakes Street Faire, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
- 2024 Grand Forks Art in the Park, Grand Forks, North Dakota
- 2024 Watermark Art Festival, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2024 Anishinaabe Art Festival, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2024 Wild Rice Day Festival, Mahnomen, Minnesota
- 2024 Shooting Star Casino Anniversary Art Festival, Bagley, Minnesota
- 2024 Park Rapids Art Leap, Park Rapids, Minnesota
- 2023 Indigenous Art Festival, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota
- 2023 Polar Pete's Market, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
- 2023 Detroit Lakes Street Faire, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
- 2023 Grand Forks Art in the Park, Grand Forks, North Dakota
- 2023 Watermark Art Festival, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2023 Anishinaabe Art Festival, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2023 Wild Rice Day Festival, Mahnomen, Minnesota
- 2023 Indigenous Art Festival, Plains Art Museum, Fargo, North Dakota
- 2023 Eden Prairie Art Festival, Eden Prairie, Minnesota
- 2023 Pollinator Festival, Saint Paul, Minnesota
- 2023 Hackensack Art and Book Festival, Hackensack, Minnesota
- 2022 Polar Pete's Market, Detroit Lakes, Minnesota
- 2022 Brainerd Art in the Park, Brainerd, Minnesota
- 2022 Bemidji Art in the Park, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2022 Anishinaabe Art Festival, Bemidji, Minnesota
- 2022 Eden Prairie Art in the Park, Eden Prairie, Minnesota
- 2022 Mahnomen Wild Rice Days Cultural Festival
- 2022 Watermark Art Center Pop Up Event
- 2022 Artisan Market, Bemidji Carnegie Library

PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

2024 Beyond The Art Podcast: Featured Artist
2024 Project Optimist: Featured Artist
2024 Prairie Public Television: Prairie Mosaic Featured Artist
2023 5 Plain Questions Podcast
2023 In Bemidji Magazine: Cover Feature
2022 Eden Prairie, MN Arts in the Park Publication/Advertisement
2022 Featured Artist: <https://www.artfestivalbemidji.com/festivalhighlights>
2022 The Poets' Republic, Poetry as Testimony: Cover Artist; Issue 10, Winter 21-22, Scotland
2021 NorthStar Watermedia Society Newsletter: Featured Artist, Minneapolis, Minnesota
2019 Featured Artist: Park Rapids Art Leap Brochure, Park Rapids, Minnesota
2019 Featured Artist for the St. Paul Art Leap 2019, Brochure "We Are Still Here" Catalog, Park Rapids
2019 Madwewe-It is Heard, Announcement postcard cover, Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota
2017 Aazhoomon-Miikanan Gallery, Grand Opening featured artist, Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota

REPRESENTATIONS: Studio and Retail Outlets

2023- Current: Watermark Art Center, Bemidji, Minnesota
2023- Current: AICHO: American Indian Community Housing Corp, Duluth, Minnesota
2022 Studio 176, Park Rapids, Minnesota May-December 2022
2022 Native Roots Trading Post, Dayton's Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on-going

BOARDS

2022-2025 Manoomin Arts Initiative, Board Chair
2020-2022 Region 2 Board of Directors, American Indian Liaison
2019-2022 Region 2 Arts Council, Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Council Board Member

EDUCATION

2022 NEA Artist Cohort: Springboard for the Arts Business Skills for Artists
First Peoples Fund: Native Artist Professional Development Training

2018 Professional Development Training, First Peoples Native Artist Professional Development Training; Mahnomen, Minnesota

2016 Blandin Foundation, Tribal and Community Leadership Training

2002 University of Minnesota, Duluth, Minnesota
MASTER OF EDUCATION-INDIAN EDUCATION
Degree: M.Ed. 2002

1989 Bemidji State University, Bemidji, Minnesota
MASS COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS
Degree: Bachelor of Science: 1989