

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, Mahnommen, MN
- 2024 Waabigwan Mashkiki, Mahnommen, 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, Mahnommen, 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, Mahnommen, 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, Mahnommen, 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 Mahnommen 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