

Douglas J Webster

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Douglas J is an artist not trained by conventional means. Douglas shared his love of art with his five siblings, and began drawing and painting on sight, before the age of ten. He graduated Westinghouse high school in 1978 and briefly attended The Art Institute of Pittsburgh. After three months, when a lack of funding prevented Douglas from completing school at the Art Institute, he did not stop creating. In 2000, he expanded his artistry by completing an associate degree in Carpentry from Triangle Technical Institute of Pittsburgh. From there, Douglas J expanded his creation to custom woodworking, while discovering how much richer his soft pastel images came to life on suede board. He does not view himself as a self-taught artist; rather, an artist given his creative gifts by God. He is not ashamed to let everyone know this fact: All the credit for his unique gifts, God gets the Glory!

Douglas J takes great pride in the meticulous attention to detail he dedicates to each piece. Witnessing the joy, curiosity, and surprise from admirers gives him a sense of honor, which propels him to continue creating. The passion, emotions, persona, and character of each piece seem to draw the viewer into the moment, or causes them to draw on their own personal memories.

Douglas' work has been exhibited and awarded:

- 2023 Commissioned by the University of Pittsburgh to create a portrait of Ella P. Steward. The first African American Female Pharmacist in the United States.
- 2022 Commissioned by St. Moritz Building Services to create a Portrait of the founder of the company Mr. Moritz
- 2021 Commissioned by Magee's Women's Hospital to create a portrait of Dr. Morris Turner
- 2020 Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival, "The Emerging Artist Scholarship"
- 2020 Juried Visual Art Exhibition, Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival Winner of "The People's Choice Award"
- 2020 Juried Visual Art Exhibition, Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival Winner of "The Juror's Choice Award." Juror, Dan Leers (Curator of Photography at Carnegie Museum of Art)
- Exhibition: Women of Vision, "Striving: Contemporary African American Artist of Pittsburgh", John Heinz Pittsburgh Regional History Centre
- Award: 2019 Westinghouse High School Wall of Fame Honoree
- Exhibition: CAPA Gallery at the Creative and Performing Arts School in the Pittsburgh's Cultural District
- Exhibition: Manchester Craftsmen's Guild: Seeing Jazz: A Tribute to the Masters & Pittsburgh Jazz Legends an exhibition by curator Gwen Black of New York.