

Shelby Rector

Artist & Shop Technician

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Education

2020-2024 Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ceramics - Union University, Jackson, TN

Employment Experience

2023-Present 3-D Shop Technician - Union University, Jackson, TN
In charge of upkeep and safety of 3D studios, including all equipment, kilns, glazes/slips, and managing students and student workers. Assist with and oversee all kiln firings for wood, soda, primitive, raku, electric, and gas processes. Assist the 3D Faculty with the operation of classes whenever necessary. Assist in receiving, hanging, installing, packing, and shipping all professional art shows in the main gallery.

February 2025 Studio/Workshop Assistant – Kourtney Stone & Thaddeus Erdahl – Union University, Jackson, TN

August 2022- May 2023 3-D Shop Technician Assistant - Union University, Jackson, TN
Assisting the Department of Art 3D Shop Technician with their tasks. Responsible for general studio cleanliness and upkeep. Assisting with handling professional artists' works.

August 2022- May 2023 Studio Assistant - Union University, Jackson, TN
Assisted Mr. Aaron Lee Benson, 3-D Faculty and Art Department Chair

January 2023 Studio Assistant - University of North Alabama, Florence, AL
Assisted Mrs. Paige Ward Moore for her exhibition "Becoming June"

February 2022 Studio/Workshop Assistant – Randy Johnston & Jan McKeachie Johnston – Union University, Jackson, TN

Teaching Experience

March 2025	Tennessee Craft Demonstrating Artist Demonstrated sgraffito and coil building to the fifth-grade students at Ripley Elementary School, sponsored by Tennessee Craft.
June 2024	Ceramics Camp Instructor- Union University, Jackson, TN Main Wheel-Throwing Instructor for ages 7-17 and Adult Evening classes.
October 2024	1-Day Workshop for Jackson Christian Academy Hands-on hand-building demonstration for the high school art classes.
June 2023- August 2023	Head Ceramics Instructor – Camp North Star, Poland Spring, ME Wheel-Throwing and Hand-Building instruction for campers ages 7-17. Autonomous curriculum creation.

Gallery Experience (Install/De-install & Assistance)

***Exhibited at Union University in Jackson, TN**

January 2026 – (Ongoing)	Jacob Meer, “Day to Day” Exhibition *
November 2025- January 2026	Brian Bundren, “Out of the (UN)Ordinary” Exhibition *
September – November 2025	Sandra Bowden Collection: “Was God Dead?” * A collection of German Expressionist Prints
September – November 2025	“Was God Dead?” Ekphrastic Response Show * A group exhibition of works made in response to the “Was God Dead?” Bowden Collection. Shown in Union University’s Student Gallery space.
February – March 2025	Kourtney Stone & Thaddeus Erdahl Dual Exhibition *
January 2025	Angela Lee, “Be Still and Know” Exhibition *
October – December 2024	Elizabeth Weber, “Vivid Surfaces: The Art of Color and Texture in Wood” Exhibition *
August - September 2024	Union University Faculty Show, Cedarville University, Cedarville, OH

August – October 2024	Jason Stout, “In My Room, Alone with Everyone” Exhibition *
April- May 2024	Richard Lou, “Embustero” Exhibition *
April 2024	BFA Studio Art Student Show Exhibition * My own BFA group show with my cohort, presenting my group of pots titled, “Embracing Change”
April 2024	Annual Student Show Exhibiton *
February- March 2024	Iren Tete, “Once Again Somewhere in Some Time” Exhibition *
November 2023- February 2024	Haelim Allen, “Momentary Pause” Exhibition *
September - November 2023	Sarah-Anne Winchester, Exhibition *
August 2023	Jesse Ring, “Gardens Edge” Exhibition * Deinstallation Only
April- May 2023	Paula Kovarik, “YOU ARE HERE” Exhibition *
September – December 2022	Sandra Bowden Collection: “Marc Chagall and the Bible” Exhibition * Art handler for the showing of the original Marc Chagall prints, as well as installation and deinstallation.
September – December 2022	Marc Chagall Ekphrastic Response Show * A group exhibition of works made in response to the “Marc Chagall and the Bible” Bowden Collection. Shown in Union University’s Logos Library.
May – August 2022	Marissa Childers, “Ornaments of Daily Life” Exhibition *
April – May 2022	Betsy Marsch, “Action & Inner Reaction” Exhibition *
February – March 2022	Randy Johnston & Jan McKeachie Johnston Exhibition *

Residencies, Internships, and Workshops

*Juried

July 2025	Watershed Summer Residency: Session III, Edgecomb, ME Short-term, two-week residency
June – July 2022	Ceramics Internship at Hope Farm School, Stockholm, WI A summer-long internship working on a farm part-time with students to teach life skills, while having an opportunity to bring arts into the curriculum by exposing students to the ceramics practice.
October 2022	Arrowmont School of Craft 1-week workshop, Gatlinburg, TN Attended Juan Barroso’s underglaze painting workshop as a part of the Windgate Fellow Award.

Exhibitions

September – November 2025	“Was God Dead?” Ekphrastic Response Show, Union University, Jackson, TN
April 2024	Senior BFA Exhibition “Embracing Change” Union University, Jackson, TN
April 2024	Annual Student Show, Union University, Jackson, TN *
October- November 2023	Bellwethers Annual Juried Exhibition of Collegiate Student Art, * West TN Regional Art Center, Humboldt, TN Headed by University of Tennessee at Martin
April 2023	Annual Student Show, Union University, Jackson, TN *
April 2022	Annual Student Show, Union University, Jackson, TN *

Awards, Scholarships, Etc.

May 2025	Tennessee Craft Member Scholarship
2021-2024	Union University Art Department Scholarship

Art Fairs

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| May 2025 | 54 th Annual Spring Tennessee Craft Art Fair, Nashville, TN
Emerging Maker's Tent |
| October 2025 | 47 th Annual Fall Tennessee Craft Art Fair, Nashville, TN
Emerging Maker's Tent |