

# DONNA JACKSON

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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### BIOGRAPHY

Donna Jackson is an interdisciplinary artist from Detroit, MI. For the past 17 years, Donna has dedicated her skills as a designer and project manager to develop marketing and promotional materials for urban libraries. She has been a graphic/web designer for Detroit Public Library and Houston Public Library systems and brand manager for Houston Public Library. She currently consults libraries in brand identity development and is a regular presenter at library association conferences. Recently Donna has joined the American Library Association John Cotton Dana Public Relations Award Committee, focusing on awarding brilliant marketing in American Libraries. While working as a professional in libraries, Donna built her workshop and studio, DMJStudio.

### ABOUT DMJSTUDIO

Art in communities elevate the people and the value of the neighborhood. DMJStudio works to do this in an inclusive and thoughtful way. DMJStudio is a creative studio that connects and visually impacts the community through art. Using public art, exhibits, film, social collaboration and public spaces DMJStudio closes the gaps between neighborhoods and galleries. DMJ's goals are simple; to develop yearly projects and exhibitions that focus on current issues, ideas and the diversity of life - giving more people an opportunity to think outside of our daily beliefs and understandings. These projects are done in non-traditional spaces, neighborhoods and public spaces to help close the cultural gaps between neighborhoods and places like museums and galleries and to bring awareness of changes needed to make neighborhoods safer, healthier and livable. DMJStudio works with organizations such as places of worship, public libraries, and community organizations to host events and create short content online to share with these different communities.

### PROJECTS

#### MIDDLE DETROIT | [WWW.MIDDLEDETROIT.COM](http://WWW.MIDDLEDETROIT.COM)

Middle Detroit is a platform for Detroiters to share their stories with a goal of expanding the limited narrative that is currently spread via media and within the city into one that shows the complexities and intricacies of Detroit. Middle challenges are not just a Detroit story, it is an American story, and we believe that Detroit will be the trailblazer in defining middle class and empowering Middle Detroit and Middle America.

#### IN PURSUIT OF HOPE | [WWW.MIDDLEDETROIT.COM/HOPE](http://WWW.MIDDLEDETROIT.COM/HOPE)

A compelling film and photography exhibition reflecting on the Detroit 1967 Rebellion featuring the shared narratives of the Detroit residents of the neighborhood, HOPE Village about race, equity and progress in the 50 years after the uprising

#### DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY | [WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/DOORS](http://WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/DOORS)

Door of Opportunity is a traveling exhibition displaying the creativity and opportunities in Detroit for artists. What makes this exhibit unique is the visual art in this exhibition is actual doors transformed into art. The vision is simple; to tour this art by local artists in many neighborhoods and public spaces in Metro Detroit and have doors permanently located in different neighborhoods within Detroit as creative symbols that all of Detroit and Detroiters have the opportunity to have a full, successful life in Detroit.

#### COLORFUL WOMEN | [WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/MY-ART/COLORFULWOMEN/](http://WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/MY-ART/COLORFULWOMEN/)

Colorful Women is a series of illustrations, paintings, and coloring books, created to break down standard beauty and build it back up using color, personality, and organizing lines. These images have allowed for a conversation on beauty between women of different ethnicities and experiences, finding a new confidence in their womanhood.

#### GILDA'S GIRLS | [WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/GILDAS-GIRLS](http://WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/GILDAS-GIRLS)

Gilda Snowden is an inspiration for many artists in Detroit and the world. She found success in a world that is dominated by men. She shared her life and talent with many of us, teaching many female artists the ability to create and to express ourselves as women, artists and human beings. This project gathers stories and memories from Gilda Snowden's students about her life and works.

#### WOMEN'S WORK ART GALLERY | [WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/WWARTGALLERY/](http://WWW.DMJSTUDIO.COM/WWARTGALLERY/)

Detroit has a multitude of talented female artists that need a platform and the opportunities to share their talents and cultivate their careers as visual artists. DMJStudio has taken on this challenge and created WW Art Gallery (Women's Work Art Gallery) a gallery for women, run by women, exhibiting the works of women in Detroit, and beyond. While our focus is women artists in Detroit/Michigan, we are here to represent women artists of the world. The gallery will be located at 10325 Linwood St., an old fire station located near historic Boston-Edison Neighborhood. The door will open in 2018.

# CURRICULUM VITAE CONT.

## EXHIBITS

- 2017 In Pursuit of Hope, Focus: HOPE , Detroit, MI
- 2017 Gilda's Girls, The Baltimore Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2017 Door of Opportunity, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Door of Opportunity, The Baltimore Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Wall of 100 Makers, Civilla, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Door of Opportunity, Daly in the Alley, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Door of Opportunity, Belle Isle Art Show, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Door of Opportunity, Palmer Park Art Show, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Indie Art Fair Mural Exhibition, Down River Council of the Arts, Wyandotte, MI
  
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, Northend Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, 4731 Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, One Mile Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, Detroit Public Library, Detroit, MI
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, The Baltimore Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, The Virgil Carr Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2015 Door of Opportunity, Downriver Council of the Arts, Wyandotte, MI
- 2012 Detroit Got Talent, Heidelberg Project, Detroit, MI

## COLLECTION

The Baltimore Gallery

## CURATORIAL PROJECTS

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