**The Art of Marty & Richard Ray**

Marty and Richard Ray grew up in Dallas and were both drawn to art from an early age.

Each earned advanced degrees as art majors:

Marty, MFA Ceramics/Art Education – SMU Richard, MA Painting/Ceramics - TWU

In the late 1960’s a friend wanted Marty & Richard to meet since they were both artists. Amazingly they crossed paths at Samuel High School and Richard remembers helping Marty paint stage sets for *Little Abner*, the school musical. (He a sophmore, she a senior). In 1971 they married and moved to the White Rock Lake area making their home and studios in the pecan forests of Barbaree Blvd. Marty’s focus has been ceramics, incising clay surfaces & Richard has painted portratis and subjects inspired by nature. Marty’s imagery involves stories of art and life and city environments. White Rock Lake has been a primary subject in Richard’s work.

Marty recently retired from teaching ceramics and sculpture and directing 3D programs at North Lake College for 40 years. Professional honors include DCCCD Professor of the Year and Innovator of the Year. **In 2006, a painting by Marty was installed as the inaugural mural for the Catholic Foundation Plaza located in the Dallas Arts District. In 2020 the DART Station she designed is scheduled to open in Las Colinas. Richard’s individual work has been shown in solo and group shows. In 2018 he self-published *Sunday Afternoon Walk on the Moon*, a collection of his art, stories and poetry about the moon and its crators.**

Their individual work remains important, however recently Marty & Richard began collaboration on a series of paintings related in design to Marty’s pottery surfaces. In 2012, Richard was inspired by line drawings from Marty’s sketchbooks and imagery on her pots. He asked Marty to draw on canvas and then added color with acrylic paint. Richard had sometimes worked with Marty on pottery, now the collaboration expanded to paint on canvas. Working collaboratively in ceramics is historically widespread, but not as common for painting.

In 2018 an exhibition of their collaboration art was shown at the Goldmark Cultural Center; the work spanned a 25-year period. Since 1992 they have opened their studio to the public in October as part of the [White Rock Lake Artists' Studio Tour](http://www.whiterockartists.com/). In 2019, new works by the Rays will be featured in the exhibition, *Shared Visions in Clay and Paint* at the Craighead Green Gallery beginning September 7.

To learn more about the art of Richard and Marty visit these websites:

[www.martyray.com](http://www.martyray.com) [www.richardraypainter.com](http://www.richardraypainter.com) and Marty’s FaceBook pages.

Marty & Richard Ray

Dallas July 2019

**The Marty & Richard Ray Endowed Art Scholarship**

Artists Marty & Richard Ray through the Dallas County Community College Foundation have established the Marty and Richard Ray Endowed Art Education Scholarship. Their wish is to assist North Lake College students who are majoring in the Visual Arts.  Both have personal connections to DCCCD. Marty taught Ceramics & Sculpture at North Lake from 1978-2017 while juggling life as an active leader in the Dallas Arts community. Richard earned an AAS degree in art from DCCCD. Eventually with important assistance through scholarships and mentoring they each earned advanced degrees. Marty (MFA SMU) & Richard (MA TWU). As life long artists, the Rays understand the importance of Art for individuals and the community. With this scholarship, the hope is to extend encouragement and financial assistance for students who desire to further their education in any area of the visual arts.

**To donate or for information about the**

***Marty & Richard Ray Endowed Art Scholarship***

**Contact:**

**Dallas County Community College Foundation**

**or**

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