

# Owusu Ross Junior

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## Education

- 2025**      **MFA Graduate**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit.
- 2017**      **Bachelor of Arts**, Industrial Art in Ceramics, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana.

## Teaching and professional experience

**2025**

**Assistant Professor of Art, Ceramics I**, Fine Art Department, Talladega College, Talladega, AL.

**Assistant Professor of Art, Ceramics II**, Fine Art Department, Talladega College, Talladega, AL.

**Assistant Professor of Art, Senior Project**, Fine Art Department, Talladega College, Talladega, AL.

**Assistant Professor of Art, Art Appreciation**, Fine Art Department, Talladega College, Talladega, AL.

**Assistant Professor of Art, Sculpture**, Fine Art Department, Talladega College, Talladega, AL.

**Non-Instructional Assistant**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Ceramics Department, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**Mentor**, NCECEA Student Portfolio feedback, Salt Lake City, Utah.

**2023 - 2024 Instructor of Record, ACR 2550. Intro to Ceramics**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**2023**      **Studio Assistant**, Ceramics Department, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**2022**      **Teaching and Demo Assistant** for Intro to Ceramics for Jessika Edgar and Lauren Kalman at the Ceramics Department, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**Studio Assistant**, Ceramics Department, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**Instructor of Record**, BFA's, Studio Forming Technics, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. GH.

**Internship Supervisor**, Ceramics Section, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. GH.

**Course Instructor and Kiln Supervisor**, Studio forming Techniques for Albert Essuman, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. GH.

**2021**      **Kiln Supervisor and Studio Technician**, Ceramics Section, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. GH

- 2020**      **Studio Technician**, Ceramics Section, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. GH.
- 2019**      **Instructor of Record**, Studio Forming techniques, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, GH  
**Technical and Production Manager**, Planta GH, Accra Ghana. GH.
- 2018**      **Teaching Assistant and Instructor** for BFA's, Ceramic Studio Art, Hand Forming Techniques, Mold Making, Finishing and Firing. Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, GH.

## **Professional Services & Community Engagement**

- 2025**      Faculty Development and Mentoring – Member, Talladega College.  
Awards and Scholarship Committee – Member, Talladega College.  
Ceremonial Occasions committee – Member, Talladega College.  
Visiting Artist to the Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan.  
Mentor Student Portfolio Review, National Council on Education for Ceramic Arts (NCECA), Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 2023**      Volunteer for National Council on Education for Ceramic Arts (NCECA) in Cincinnati, OH.
- 2019- 2020**      Supervising Registration Officer, National Identification Authority (NIA), Ghana, GH.
- 2015-2017**      Electoral Commissioner, Ceramics Section, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana. GH.

## **Awards & Grants**

- 2025**      **46<sup>th</sup> Art Achievement Award Designer (\$2000)**, Annual commemorative tile competition, Wayne State University.  
**John F. Korachis Scholarship Award (\$2700)**, Annual Scholarship Awards and Exhibition, Detroit Historical Museum. Michigan. MI  
**The Bill May Scholarship Award (\$1305)**, a Full residency scholarship award at Arrowmont School of Art and Craft, Gatlinburg, Tennessee, TN.  
**Thomas C. Rumble University Graduate Fellowship Award (\$20000)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.  
**The Watershed Zenobia Award**, a Full residency Scholarship award at Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Edgecomb, Maine, ME.  
**Finalist, Detroit Artist Market Annual Scholarship Award**, Detroit Artist Market in partnership with Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, MI.  
**The Penland Summer workshop Scholarship (\$1000)**, a Full Residency Award at Penland School of Craft, North Carolina, NC.  
**The Mudslinger Ceramic Scholarship Recipient (\$1000)**, a Full residency scholarship award at Peters Valley School of Craft, New Jersey, NJ.
- 2024**      **Arts and Achievement Award Pewabic Commemorative Tile (\$1500)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.  
**Thomas C. Rumble University Graduate Fellowship Award (\$20000)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.  
**The Dr. Judith Temple Scholarship (\$1350)**, a Full residency scholarship at Arrowmont School of Art and Craft, Gatlinburg, Tennessee. TN
- 2023**      **Sfumato Art Gallery last Artist Open Call Winner.**

**The Lynda Frank Sanders Scholarship (\$1500)**, Full residency scholarship at Penland School of Craft, North Carolina, NC.

**NCECA 2023 Multicultural Fellowship Award Recipient (\$875).**

**James Pearson Duffy Graduate Award (\$23000)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, MI.

**Graduate Art Activity Award (\$2000) (3x)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, MI.

**2022 James Pearson Duffy Graduate Award (\$23000)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, MI.

**Graduate Art Activity Award (\$1000)**, Department of Art and Art History, Wayne State University, MI.

## Solo Show

**2026 (Upcoming) “Unsettled Grounds; Elsewhere Home**, a Solo show at the Norwest Gallery of Art, Detroit, Michigan.

**(Upcoming) “How it Feels”**, a Solo show at the Marshall University School of Art & Design, Huntington, West Virginia, WV.

**2025 “The Places We Go”** a Solo show at the Goodnow Gallery, Talladega College, Alabama. AL.

**“Home feels far Reached from Here”**, a Solo show at the Detroit Historical Museum, Detroit, Michigan. MI.

**“The “Bye-cycles” of Home-coming**, a Graduate Thesis Solo show at the Art Department Gallery, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.

**2024 “Foreigners Here and There”**. A Solo show at the Siteworks Detroit, Detroit, Michigan, MI.

**2019 “Made by a Man”** a Solo show at the KNUST Ceramics Gallery, Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa

## Two Person Exhibition

**2023 “Y’akyi nnwa – Lets Have a Conversation”**: A two person show at the Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, Sedalia, MO.

## Group exhibition

**2026 (Upcoming) “ABSENCE TAKES FORM”, the NCECA Annual Exhibition, (MCFE)”**. 60th annual conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, Detroit Michigan. MI.

**(Upcoming) “2026 NCECA Multicultural Fellowship Exhibition, (MCFE)”**. 60th annual conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, Detroit Michigan. MI.

**(Upcoming) “The 2026 Black Creativity Juried Art Exhibition at the Griffin Museum of Science+Industr, Chicago, Il.**

- 2025**      ***“Future Lioness & Lions II”, Emerging artist exhibition*** at the NCA Gallery with the National Conference of Artists Michigan. Detroit-Michigan.  
***“Merge(d)”*** exhibition with The Color Network in partnership with The Hudgens Center, Duluth, Georgia, GA.  
***“Art@Wayne”***, Graduate Exhibition, Old main, Wayne State University, Detroit Michigan.  
***“2025 Annual Scholarship Awards and Exhibition”***, at The Detroit Historical Museum, Detroit, Michigan, MI.  
***“2025 NCECA Multicultural Fellowship Exhibition, (MCFE)”***. 59th annual conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
***“Beyond....”***, a Graduate student’s final year Thesis show, at the Art Department Gallery, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.  
***“From Africa to Detroit: Exploration of the Diaspora”*** Exhibition at the Norwest Gallery of Art, Detroit, Michigan, MI.  
***“Diasporic Crossing”***, Exhibition at the Southside Contemporary Art Gallery, Richmond, Virginia, VA.  
***“Marking Place”***, Student Juried Exhibition at the University Gallery, Eastern Michigan University, Detroit, Michigan, MI.  
***“2025 MSA select, Oxford”***, an indoor Exhibition at Gallery 130, Department of Art and Art History, University of Mississippi, Mississippi, MS.
- 2024**      ***MFA Exhibition Online”*** Annual Exhibition of MFA Artwork for Graduate Students juried Graduate students from the University of Montana, Missoula and Montana State University, Bozeman [Link](#)  
***“2024 MSA Select, Birmingham”***, an indoor exhibition at Vulcan Materials Gallery at the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham, Alabama, AL.  
***“Solidarity”***, an indoor exhibition held by MSA in partnership with Space One Eleven Art Center in Birmingham, Alabama, AL,  
***“The 2024 Michigan Ceramic Association Biennial and competition”***, Birmingham, Michigan. MI.  
***“Memento nos”***: Migration and movement in America by the Homer and Dolly Hand Art Center, Stetson university, Deland, Florida.  
***“Ceramics 2024”***; Materia Gallery, Core city, Detroit. MI
- 2023**      ***“National Juried Art Exhibition 2023”***, Mid-South Sculpture Alliance, MTSU Todd Art Gallery Murfreesboro, Tennessee, TN.  
***“Running on Flower Power”***, First ever Springtime Show & Sale; the Glastonbury Collective, Detroit, MI  
***“Y’akɔfa: Ruptures and Renewals in Art from Ghana and Nigeria”***, Lucky Day Gallery, Fayetteville Public Library, AR  
***“Ross - Being Apart Together”*** showcased at TIME - 2023 exhibition, organized by Exhibizone, [Link](#)
- 2022**      ***“Building Bridges”***, Ceramics Studio, Department of Industrial Arts, KNUST
- 2019**      ***“Ahoɔden,”*** Jamestown Café, Accra, Ghana, West Africa, co-curated with Adam Posnak, Fourteen artists from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Accra, Ghana, West Africa.  
***“This is the man from a system”***: Ceramics Gallery, Ceramics Department, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Accra, Ghana, West Africa.

***“Final year fashion and exhibition show”***, Department of art and society, KNUST mall, Kumasi, Ghana, GH.  
***“End of year sales and exhibition”***, KNUST Gallery, Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa.  
***“Greenware on tables”***, KNUST Gallery, Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa.

## Performance Exhibition

- 2023**      ***“The Land, the People and Migration (Oman no, Edom no Batatuo)”***. Thursday Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> at the Graduate studio, Old Main, Wayne State University, Detroit, USA.  
**2022**      ***“If I can only be free”***. February 20<sup>th</sup> at The Ceramics Studio, Ceramics Department, KNUST.

## Collaborative Projects

- 2025**      (Ongoing) ***“Building Belonging”***, a thesis collaboration at the Department of Art, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, MI.  
**2024**      ***“The Frimpong Case: continued”***, a studio project with Vincent ‘sniper’ Frimpong at University of Arkansas, AR.  
**2022**      ***“Building Bridges”***, Ceramics Studio, Department of Industrial Arts, KNUST.

## Curated and Co-curated Projects

- 2025**      ***“Emergent Forms”***, a Curated show for the Senior Exhibition students at the Goodnow Gallery in the Fine Arts Department at Talladega College, Alabama, AL.  
**2024**      ***“The Frimpong Case: continued”***, a Co-curated show with Vincent ‘sniper’ Frimpong at Hall gallery, Millsaps college, MS.  
**2023**      ***“Tiny but Mighty”***, a Curated final year exhibition with Prof. Samuel Nortey, Ceramics Studio, Department of Industrial Arts, KNUST.  
**2022**      ***“Building Bridges”***, Co-curated final year exhibition with Prof. Samuel Nortey Ceramics Studio, Department of Industrial Arts, KNUST.

## Bibliography

- 2026**      ***“Upcoming”*** The Studio Potter Magazine; *Ghanaian Ceramics on the Rise* by Japheth Aseidu-Kwarteng.  
***“Upcoming”*** The Studio Potter Magazine; *Hybridity Without Permission; International Graduate Artists and the Expansion of Contemporary Studio Practice* by Ross Junior Owusu  
**2025**      The Color Network Artist Spotlight, August 14<sup>th</sup> 2025, [Link](#)  
The Circle foundation for the Arts, March 14<sup>th</sup> 2025. [Link](#)  
The Future Materials bank Magazine, February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2025. [Link](#)  
NCECA Journal, Volume 45, Page 96  
NCECA Exhibitions Catalogue, Page 106 & Page 195  
**2024**      The Studio Potter Magazine Stories, November 1<sup>st</sup>, [Link](#)  
The creatives having coffee, [Link](#)  
The Dave Chappell Foundation Artist Market Place Select. [Link](#)  
The Voyage Michigan Magazine stories, May 30<sup>th</sup> 2024. [Link](#)  
The Bold Magazine Stories, January 16<sup>th</sup> 2024. [Link](#)

- 2023** Critical interventions in emerging Ghanaian contemporary ceramic practice, Journal of African Art Education, Volume 3 pp. 55, Published 2023, [Link](#)  
 Art History Exhibition on Display at Fayetteville Public Library, University of Arkansas News, [Link](#)  
 Dovetail Magazine stories, [Link](#)  
 The canvas Rebel stories and Insights; [Link](#)  
 'Ross - Being Apart Together' showcased at TIME - 2023 exhibition, organized by Exhibizone, [Link](#)

## Artist Talk and Presentation

- 2025** **Main Speaker**, “Clay as a Common Ground” NCECA Community Conference, Salt palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
**Guest Speaker**, “From Africa to Detroit”, moderated by Yolanda Davis at the Norwest Gallery, Detroit – Michigan. MI.  
**Guest Speaker**, Conversations and Commentaries on African/Black American Migrant Experiences, a social work class, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan, MI.
- 2024** Ceramics 2024; Materia Gallery, Core city, Detroit. MI.
- 2023** Y’akyi Nnwa – Lets Have a Conversation: A Two Person Show, Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, Sedalia, MO.  
 Getting it Right – Undergraduate Conference on Graduate Applications and studies, Ceramics Section, KNUST, Ghana.
- 2021** Ahocden artist talk and presentation in James town, Accra, West Africa

## Residency And Workshop

- 2025** Building Stackable - The Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, University of Michigan Ann Arbor, Michigan.  
 Summer Residency workshop, the Narrative figure – stories in clay, Arrowmont school of art and craft, Gatlinburg, Tennessee, TN.  
 Summer Residency Session III, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Edgecomb, Maine, ME.  
 Haystack 2025 summer workshop, Haystack Mountain School of Art, Deer Isle, Maine, ME.  
 Summer 2025, Session 2, Reverse it; Relief and Intaglio, Penland School of Craft, North Carolina, NC.  
 Summer Residency, Peters Valley School of Craft, Sandyston, New Jersey, NJ.
- 2024** Arrowmont School of Art and Craft, summer 2024, Gatlinburg, Tennessee, TN
- 2023** Penland School of Craft, Bakersville, NC  
 Wild Rose Farm Artist Residency and Retreat, Ontario, Canada
- 2015** Intern, Ceramica Tamakloe, Accra – Afienva, Ghana, GH.

## Awards and Honors Summary

Thomas C. Rumble Fellowship Award, Wayne State University (2025 & 2024).  
 The Zenobia Award, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Art (2025).  
 Mentor for Student Portfolio Review, NCECA, Salt Lake (2025).  
 Mudslinger Ceramics Scholarship, Peters School Valley of Craft (2025).

The Haystack Summer Residency Scholarship, Haystack Mountain School of Craft (2025).  
James Pearson Duffy Graduate Award, Wayne State University (2023 & 2022).  
NCECA 2023 Multicultural Fellowship Award Recipient.  
The Dr. Judith Temple Scholarship, Arrowmont School of Art and Craft (2023).  
The Lynda Frank Sanders Scholarship, Penland School of Craft (2023).  
Sfumato Art Gallery Artist Open Call Winner (2023).  
Editor-in-Chief, Art Society, KNUST (2015-2017).

## **Principal activities & leadership experience**

- Assistant Professor of Art, Talladega College (2025)
- Graduate Teaching Assistant, Wayne State University (2025).
- Student Portfolio Mentor (NCECA, 2025).
- Instructor of Record, Wayne State University (2023-2024).
- Teaching Assistant, Wayne State University (2022).
- Instructor & Kiln Supervisor, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST), Ghana (2020-2021).
- Internship Supervisor, KNUST (2021).
- Electoral Commissioner & Welfare Committee Member, KNUST (2015-2017).
- Editor-in-Chief, Art Society, KNUST (2015-2017).
- Volunteer for NCECA, (2023).
- Darryl Chappell Foundation, Artist Marketplace, (2023-2024).

## **Professional memberships.**

Faculty Development and Mentoring  
Awards and Scholarship Committee  
Ceremonial Occasions Committee  
Detroit Artist Market.  
Wayne State Ceramic Clay Guild.  
GoldCoast Terracotta.  
Ceramics KNUST.  
Darryl Chappell Foundation.  
NCECA