



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hickory Furniture Mart's Furniture Festival & Clearance Sale
Craftsmen & Artisan Bios
July 27th - 29th, 2018

FURNITURE CRAFTSMEN & DEMONSTRATIONS

Vanguard Furniture

(Level 4, North Entrance)

Vanguard prides itself on being a fashion leader in the industry. Based in Hickory, North Carolina, its 600 associates manufacture furniture in the tradition that has made North Carolina famous for quality furniture. Whether you're updating the dining room or looking for new upholstery, Vanguard offers a choice of styles from classical to modern, traditional to eclectic, all built for the life you live today. On Saturday, July 28, outside of Vanguard Furniture Factory Outlet, a skilled craftsman will be demonstrating how an 8-way hand-tied sofa springing system is created. See Vanguard's full product line on display inside the Vanguard Furniture Factory Outlet, located on Level 4, North Entrance and also inside Good's Home Furnishings, located on Levels 2 & 3, South Entrance.

www.goodshomefurnishings.com

MANUFACTURER DISPLAYS

Ekornes Stressless Furniture by Reflections Furniture

(Level 2, North Entrance)

If you love contemporary and European style furniture, visit the Ekornes display at the North Courtyard and learn about the famous Ekornes Stressless chairs that are ergonomically designed for comfort and support. Melt into one of these chairs and watch the informative video in style. Ekornes Inc. is the largest furniture manufacturer in Scandinavia with brand names such as Ekornes and Stressless. Products include Stressless recliners, sofas, loveseats and accessories; and Ekornes Collection sofas. Products are designed and manufactured at seven factories in Norway and one in the US. They are sold in more than 30 countries. Corporate offices in New Jersey serve North America. Known as the Innovators of Comfort, the company's Stressless seating is endorsed by the American Chiropractic Association (ACA) for proper head and lumbar support. Its patented Stressless Glide System automatically adjusts to body weight to determine the proper level of support, while its patented Plus System determines correct headrest position. Marking milestones every decade, Ekornes continues to be a company with a vision to create the world's most beautiful, stylish and ergonomically designed furniture for the home. See more Ekornes products on display

inside Reflections Furniture, located on Level 3, North Entrance.

www.reflectionsfurniture.com



ARTISANS

Amanda Pearce & Ricardo Ramirez

(Level 1, South Entrance)

When Amanda was a child, her papa had huge gardens and the ability to grow anything he wanted. When she was six, she planted a few pumpkin seeds along the side of her family's home and grew an amazing pumpkin patch. It was then that she first heard the comment that she had "two green thumbs" like her papa. Papa also created amazing woodwork.

When Amanda met her husband, Ricardo, in late 2012, she soon discovered he also had the gardening bug. To beat that discovery, he was pretty good with his hands and loved to work with wood. After they married in 2016, they started their first business, Two Green Thumbs, and took on yard work and handyman services. Christmas 2016 brought wood working tools and excitement into their home. This encouraged them to grow their business to become Two Green Thumbs and More. Now Ricardo makes one-of-a-kind handcrafted wooden utensils and cutting boards. Ricardo received his first grant from the United Arts Council of Catawba County in late 2017 and was able to buy his first drill press, table saw and electric planer. These tools have increased productivity in the one-man shop, but all items are still one-of-a-kind. All items are made in NC. Amanda & Ricardo use a lot of left-over wood from the furniture industry, in addition to wine barrels and the occasionally gifted wood they receive from renovation projects or family heirlooms.

Ask them the story behind the items that you love. Each one has a great history and they love to share!
www.twogreenthumbsandmore.com

Anne Fredley Designs by Anne

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Anne began painting in the fall of 2002. It provided a creative outlet as well as a connection to her mom, also an artist, who had passed away in June. She still feels that connection every time she paints. Since Anne has always enjoyed trying to capture the beauty of nature in photographs, she naturally gravitated toward landscape painting. Much of her inspiration comes from photos taken during a trip to Italy, which included a landscape painting class in Tuscany. She feels such a sense of timelessness and a peace in the subjects she chooses. She uses fairly thin layers of paint and dry brushing to create a softer, more serene look.

She hopes to continue learning and painting, as art provides both challenge and fulfillment.
www.NCOilPainter.com

Arsenio Sánchez

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Arsenio Sánchez is a local oil painter. His paintings have been on display at several local shows, including last year's Furniture Festival at Hickory Furniture Mart. His work will be showcased and available for purchase throughout the weekend.

Christine Getlein Glazzy Girls

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Christine Getlein owns Glazzy Girls in downtown Hickory and creates unique wind chimes, stained glass pieces and fused glass objects. She just finished completing three windows for the Patrick Beaver Memorial Library in downtown Hickory.

www.glazzygirls.com



ARTISANS *(continued)*

Jan & Randy Brendle

Classy Country

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Classy Country is a duo team of Jan Brendle and her husband, Randy. They have been in business for over 18 years. They enjoy creating mountain laurel furniture with cow hide and Native American jewelry and silver.

Janet Burgess

JLB Studio

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Janet Burgess loves being an artist! She relishes living a creative life. Her work focuses on making beautiful things for herself and her clients with the intention of enriching life.

www.janetburgess.com

JW & Sandi Baker

Wolf Song Studio

(Level 3, East Entrance, Outside of The Light Place on Saturday & Sunday)

The simplest answer towards explaining JW Baker is that he is an artist – always has been and always will be.

As to his work, it is a progressive, visual journey that is marked with interesting waypoints represented by the paintings that he creates at those times. Each series of his paintings represents a new perspective, a new understanding and a new appreciation of being an artist. Sandi Baker has always been an artist. She remembers taking long periods of time as a child examining the world around her. She was fascinated with nature, especially animals, and began sketching her observations. Art has been her main focus throughout her adult life. She strives to communicate the indescribable, complex emotions, the fierce pain of being misunderstood as women are, the confusion onset by perplexing world events, the elation of being at true peace, the supreme honor to view a wild creature up close, the things words fail to convey and the things that only the soul speaks of.

www.wolfsongstudio.com

Marie McCall

Designed & Hand Sewn Just for You

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Marie is passionate about designing and sewing totes & zipper pouches. Very seldom does she ever make two that are alike. Each of her creations are unique and one-of-a-kind. She places a label inside each one that reads “Designed & Hand Sewn Especially for You.” She hopes you will enjoy her handmade items.

Pam & Jerry Miller

Bloomin’ Glass Art

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Pam & Jerry Mill make glass “flowers” from repurposed glassware on “stems” with “leaves” made from copper and aluminum. Their glass art flowers started by creating them as gifts for friend’s birthdays, baby showers, anniversaries, weddings and Christmas – any occasion to be able to make a friend smile.

From there they “bloomed”. They are a beautiful enhancement to any flower garden or yard.

They are one of a kind – no duplicates, very unique!

www.facebook.com/bloomingglassart



ARTISANS *(continued)*

Reilly Yount

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Reilly Yount – glass artist – worked as an elementary and middle school art teacher for Newton-Conover City Schools from 1978 until 2012 when he retired. He has worked in stained glass for the past 20 years and always wanted to explore the field of fused glass. When Reilly retired, he decided to purchase a glass kiln to start fusing glass and he loved it! He tries to employ different types of glass in his glasswork and is always mindful of color!

www.facebook.com/artistrwy53

Robert W. Davis

Wood Tree Swings and Crafty Things

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Since beginning in April 2012, Wood Tree Swings and Crafty Things has been a leading manufacturer of artisan crafted wood tree swings and old fashion crafts. They create beautiful handcrafted items and sell them at competitive affordable prices.

All of their products are made in the USA. Products are available for purchase on their website, as well as, Etsy and eBay.

www.treeswingsandcraftythings.com

Robert Setzer

Wood Turnings by Robert

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Robert creates a variety of wood products including: hand turned ink pens, rolling pins, key fobs, salt & pepper mills, wine glass holders and wine stoppers. He also is known for making rocking horses and rocking dogs.

www.facebook.com/woodturningsbyrobert

Tom Denne

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Tom Denne is a lifelong woodworker and a native of Lancaster, NY. He has both BS and MS degrees in Industrial Arts Education from Buffalo State in Buffalo, NY. Tom taught woodworking and architectural drawing at Washington Park High School in Racine, Wisconsin for 30 years retiring in June 2000.

In 2005, he started doing segmented turnings. Segmented turning uses many pieces of wood of different colors glued together to form intricate patterns and designs. It is not uncommon to have over 1,000 pieces glued together and turned to form bowls, vases and other objects.

Treva Sweezy

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Treva enjoys making handmade items including table top Christmas trees, jewelry, scarves and much more. She has participated in many shows over the years and this is her third time displaying her work at Hickory Furniture Mart.

Varian Lee Swieter

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Varian Swieter lives in the foothills of North Carolina where she creates functional (food, dishwasher, microwave & oven safe) and decorative ceramic art. Varian uses the pottery wheel, along with hand building and sculpting techniques. She has created a unique line of functional stoneware drinking vessels called 'Get A Grip Stoneware™'. Varian also creates sculpture pieces, designed to hang on a wall, standing sculptures and terra cotta sculptures used for aromatherapy as passive diffusers.

www.VarianLeeSwieter.com



HICKORY FURNITURE MART

COMMUNITY

Catawba Valley Orchid Society

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Catawba Valley Orchid Society (CVOS) was established in 1997 as a horticultural group with a specialty interest in all things related to the breeding, collecting, growing, education and showing of the exotic tropical orchid. Members meet monthly at the Life Sciences building at CVCC across from Lowe's and Walmart on Hwy 70. The meetings are at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month in room 701. Everyone with an interest in orchids are welcome. Light refreshments are served after each program. For more information visit CVOS on Facebook or at www.cvos.org. Dues are \$20.00 per year. Visit their table throughout the weekend for more information and repotting demonstrations. Orchids will be available for purchase.

www.cvos.org

Salinity

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Go to Salinity and discover yourself. Join them in a personal journey by attending one of their wonderful classes or workshops, or just enjoy the atmosphere as you peruse many of the unique offerings within their store.

Book a session in their Salt Therapy Room for the pinnacle of relaxation and stress relief. Enjoy one of Salinity's complimentary therapies. They look forward to seeing you soon.

www.salinity.net

FOOD & BEVERAGE

Taste Full Beans Coffeehouse

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Need to re-energize throughout the day? Taste Full Beans Coffeehouse offers hot and cold specialty beverages and a variety of snacks and quick lunch items. Stop by their location to view daily specials offered this weekend.

Wooden Spool Café

(Level 2, North Entrance)

Sit down, relax and take a break during your visit. The Wooden Spool Café specializes in homemade gourmet sandwiches, wraps, specialty burgers, salads and fresh soups. Stop by their location to view daily specials offered this weekend.

[www.facebook.com / TheWoodenSpoolCafe](https://www.facebook.com/TheWoodenSpoolCafe)

WoodMill Winery

(Level 1, South Entrance)

Local NC winery located in Vale. Specializes in muscadine and scuppernong grapes. WoodMill Winery offers a variety of indoor and outdoor venues for weddings, receptions, bridal showers, banquets and luncheons. They also do wine tastings and tours Tuesday-Sunday. Visit their table at Hickory Furniture Mart this weekend!

www.woodmillwinery.com

*Continue to check back for new participants as they will be added until the
Furniture Festival & Clearance Sale begins on July 27th, 2018!*