



# THE BRISTOL EDITION

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## Artists corner: 2 Bristol artists' work on display at Tunxis Community College, CJA recieves honor from Arts & Culture Commission, work of TBE contributor at New Britain museum



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# Artists' Corner



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POSTED BY: [DAVID FORTIER](#) FEBRUARY 5, 2026

by David Fortier | The Bristol Edition | Feb. 5, 2026 |

The works of Bristol artists Nigel Wynter and Marlo Marrero are featured in “Dual Momentum,” the current exhibition on display at the Barnes-Franklin Gallery on the campus of CT State Community College at its Tunxis site through Feb. 16.

A reception for the artists will be held today, Thursday, Feb. 5, at the gallery, from 4 to 7 p.m. The public is invited. Both Marrero and Wynter are the inaugural recipients of the Louise Laurentno DeMars Love of Art Fund at the Main Street Community Foundation.

Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and by appointment. For information, email [arthur.simoed@ctstate.edu](mailto:arthur.simoed@ctstate.edu).

## City Arts & Culture Commission recognizes Creative Jam Art Co of Bristol



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*Irmie Sauntinez, holding certificate, and Marlo Marrero Fernandez, right, of Creative Jam Art Co. on Riverside Avenue, receive first certificate of recognition from the City Arts and Culture Commission leadership, including commission vice chair Andrea Adams, front left, and commission chair Walt Lewandowski, front right; second row from left, commissioners Nigel Wynters and Maria Salice. | David Fortier*

Both Wynter and Marrero were present for the conferral of the first certificate of recognition by the Bristol City Arts & Culture Commission last week, albeit in different capacities.

Marrero is one of the three founders and a co-owner of Creative Jam Art Co on Riverside Avenue. Wynter is a member of the commission. When commission chair Walt Lewandowski showed up with Wynter and other members of the commission, the thought was that they were there for the monthly Open Mic Night, held on the last Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

During the break about half way through the readings, Bristol Poet Laureate and Open Mic Night emcee Tom Lagasse got the participants attention and handed the microphone to Lewandowski at the podium with Wynter, commission vice chair Andrea Adams and commissioner Maria Salice along side and behind him.

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Bristol businesses that fostered community engagement

with the arts and congratulated Creative Jam Art Co. for not only hosting the Open Mic Night but also as the first recipient to be recognized.

He conferred the certificate to Marrero, and together with the Arts and Culture contingent, Marrero and Creative Jam Art Co. co-owner Irmie Sauntinez posed for photos.

The certificate reads: “In recognition of your Outstanding Community Engagement, we celebrate the welcoming space you’ve created through your Open Mic Nights, where voices are heard, creativity is shared, and community is built. Your commitment to fostering connection and artistic expression continues to inspire, empower, and unite. With gratitude for the impact you make and the stage you provide for all.”

The certificate is signed by Lewandowski and dated Jan. 28.

## **Creative Jam Art Co. introduces 2nd initiative fostering arts in Bristol**

Creative Jam Art Co. has begun a second community initiative with its “Third Place Thursday,” a weekly hangout for makers, readers and dreamers. Third Place Thursdays are every Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. at Creative Jam Art Co., 350 Riverside Ave. For more information, click [here](#).

## **Chaiken’s work on display through March 1**

A juried exhibit, “Seeing Red,” will feature the work of Mike Chaiken, who covers the city for TBE, at the Art League of New Britain, beginning Friday, Feb. 6 with a reception and on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 7 and 8, from 1 to 4 p.m. The exhibit runs through March 1. Admission is free for the show.

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