

CURRICULUM VITAE

BENEDICTA OPOKU-MENSAH

Born 1995, Kumasi, Ghana

Lives and works in Gainesville, FL.

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EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

2023 -2026 **University of Florida**

Master of Fine Art – Sculpture

2014 - 2018 **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi**

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Integrated Rural Art and Industry

PROFESSIONAL AND TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Fall 2024 **School of Art and Art History – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

Position: Instructor – Space Studio

Spring 2024 **School of Art and Art History – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

Position: Teaching Assistant – Materials and Methods

Fall 2023 **School of Art and Art History – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

Position: Sculpture Shop Assistant

2018 - 2019 **Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana**

Position: Teaching and Research Assistant – Product Design

2017 **St. Ben’s Jewellery (Industrial Practice – Part of Programme of Study), KSI, Ghana**

Position: Intern

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SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Plane Print-Can I call this place home?* 4most Gallery, Gainesville FL.

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 Performer, *Fluxus in the swamp – Piano activities*, Santa Fe College Gallery, GNV, FL.
Summer Youth Celebration, Cotton Club Museum & Cultural Centre, Gainesville, FL.
B24 Wiregrass Biennial, Wiregrass Museum of Art Juried exhibition, Dothan, Alabama.
Shaped by water, The water state, Florida Springs Institute, Cade Museum, GNV, FL.
Odyssey, TedXUF conference, The university auditorium, Gainesville FL.
Black space, Moisturizer Gallery, The Historic Thomas Centre, Gainesville FL.
Veiled, Hooded and Hidden, GFAA Gallery, Gainesville, FL.
Aging -passage of life, virtual exhibition juried by Exhibizone.
A Ball Court, Crocodiles, virtual exhibition juried by I Like Your Work
- 2019 *KNUST Tratech Exhibition*, Royal Parade Grounds, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana
- 2018 *Conventional Metal Fabrication Exhibition*, IRAI Gallery, Kumasi, Ghana
- 2017 *Leather Mask Exhibition*, Royal Parade Grounds, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana

HONORS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2024 - The Rude & Daphne Osolnik Scholarship, Arrowmont School of Art and Craft, \$1,285
Travel Grant, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, \$474.20
- 2023 – Graduate Student Research Travel Grant, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, \$ 800
- 2023-2025 - Grinter Fellowship, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, \$2,250

SELECTED ARTICLES /INTERVIEWS/CATALOGS

- Maria Avlonitis, *WUFT news, Destroyed piano, meteor dust redefining art at Santa Fe College gallery*, September 2024.[Link](#)
- Fluxus scores, Performances and Reflections on Fluxus in the Swamp*, Harn Museum. [Link](#)
- Featured Artist, B24: Wiregrass Biennial*, Wiregrass Museum, Exhibition and Artist Projects. [Link](#)

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Ghana Artist TV Interview, *Time with creators*, Instagram live stream, March 2024. [Link](#)

Molly Seghi and Alexandra Burns, “*Gainesville celebrates Black creative expression during Afrofuturism week*”, the independent Florida Alligator, January 2024. [Link](#)

Christina Massey, *New Visionary Magazine*, issue 9, January 2024 (p.74). [Link](#)

Featured Artist, *Artist Closeup Contemporary Magazine* #15, February 2024 (p.52) .[Link](#)

LECTURES AND PANEL DISCUSSION

2024 Artist Lecture – Introduction to African studies - African clothing, East side High School.

Performers Panel discussion, Fluxus in the swamp-Piano activities, Harn Museum Gainesville Fl.

RESIDENCIES/WORKSHOP

Sculptural Segmented Power Carving workshop by Keunho Peter Park at Arrowmont School of Art and Craft.