

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## BENEDICTA OPOKU-MENSAH

Born 1995, Kumasi, Ghana

Lives and works in Gainesville, FL.

<https://benedictaopokumensaharts.netlify.app/>

IG@benedictaopokumensah

### EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

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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

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Fall 2025 **School of Art and Art History – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

**Position:** Teaching Assistant – WARP

Spring 2025 **School of Art and Art History – University of Florida, Gainesville, FL**

**Position:** Instructor – Space Studio

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

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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

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## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 - *33rd Annual Emerald Coast National juried art exhibition*, Mattie Kelly Arts Center Gallery, Niceville  
*Fresh Squeezed 9: Emerging Artist*, Morean Art Centre, St. Petersburg, FL.  
*2025 Juried Student Exhibition*, Gary R. Libby University Gallery, Gainesville, FL.  
*Furious Joy: Our Pleasure Despite All*, GFAA Gallery, Gainesville, FL.
- 2024 - *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

## PERFORMANCES

*Fluxus in the swamp – Piano activities*, Santa Fe College Gallery, GNV, FL.

## WORKSHOP LED

- 2025 - *Contemporary Macramé for Creative Expression*, Morean Art Centre, St. Petersburg FL.  
*Fashion Power: Knotting Narratives*, Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville FL.

## HONORS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

- 2025 – Honorarium Artist Award, Morean Art Center, \$300.  
Full Huntley-Tidwell Scholarship, Penland School of Craft.  
Travel Grant, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, \$370  
Graduate Student Research Travel Grant, School of Art and Art History, University of Florida, \$ 800.
- 2024 - The Rude & Daphne Osolnik Scholarship, Arrowmont School of Art and Craft, \$1,285.

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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

Tampa Bay Newspapers, *Emerging artists step into the spotlight at Morean Arts Center annual showcase*. [Link](#)

Center for African Studies – University of Florida, *Celebrating Migration and Expression at Art Across Africa*. [Link](#)

Harn Museum of Art, *Student Workshop*. [Link](#)

MutualArt, *Benedicta Opoku-Mensah, Artists*. [Link](#)

WUFT News - Maria Avlonitis, *Destroyed piano, meteor dust redefining art* at Santa Fe College gallery, September 2024,.[Link](#)

Harn Museum, *Fluxus scores, Performances and Reflections on Fluxus in the Swamp*., [Link](#)

Featured Artist, *B24: Wiregrass Biennial, Wiregrass Museum, Exhibition and Artist Projects*. [Link](#)

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

Voleer Thomas, *Black Space Art Exhibition*, The Gainesville Sun. [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, ARTIST TALK AND PANEL DISCUSSION

2025 - Artist Talk, Fresh Squeezed 9: Emerging Artist, Virtual.

Artist Talk, Museum Night- *Art Across Africa*, Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville FL.

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

2025 - Tableware: Tools for the Table, workshop by Boris Bally at Penland School of Craft.

2024 - Sculptural Segmented Power Carving workshop by Keunho Peter Park at Arrowmont School of Art and Craft.