

# Barbara Hengstenberg

Chatham County, North Carolina

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**Degrees Earned:**    **M.A., Education** – St. Joseph College (now University of St. Joseph), West Hartford, CT, 2007

**B.A., Liberal Arts** – Norwich University, Norwich, VT, 2001

**Certifications:**    - Professional Educator – Elementary K-6 (005) – Connecticut  
                              - Chatham Literacy Council ESL & ABE Certified Trained Tutor

**Honors/Distinctions:**

- **District Teacher of the Year** – 2010, Torrington, CT Public Schools
- **Southwest School Teacher of the Year** – 2009
- **CT Association of Schools Award** – 2009 and 2014
- **Beginning Educator Mentor and Cooperating Teacher** -- 2008, 2010, 2013

**Experience:**

**2015 – Present:**    **Founder and Operator, WildesArt**, Chatham County, NC

As an artist, writer, entrepreneur, educator, and former manager of an international artisan non-profit organization, my vast experience has culminated in WildesArt, an online gathering place for musicians, visual artists, writers, poets, chefs, and yogis. Through this online community, [www.WildesArt.com](http://www.WildesArt.com), I sell my artworks, with many pieces supporting charitable organizations.

**2020 - Present:**    **Creator and Host, Creativity Sparks**, Chatham County, NC

This video series features online creativity workshops geared toward kids, but also fun for adults. Each segment can be used as a supplemental lesson for classrooms. Also included on Creativity Sparks are video Read Alouds and children's book reviews which include educator notes, as well as downloadable coloring pages. Creativity Sparks is a wonderful resource for parents, grandparents and teachers. [www.CreativitySparks.org](http://www.CreativitySparks.org)

**2015 - Present:**    **Freelance Editor**

As a freelance editor, I specialize in editing children's books, creativity articles, resumes, educator essays, college essays and creative/arts websites.

- 2019-2020:** **Writer-In-Residence (2019) and Advisory Committee Member-Education, Piedmont Farm Animal Refuge, Pittsboro, NC**
- 2018:** **Writer/Interviewer/Columnist, Outreach NC Magazine, Southern Pines, NC**
- 2017-2019:** **Board Member, NC Arts Incubator, Siler City, NC**
- 2017:** **Columnist, Southern Neighbor, Chapel Hill, NC**
- 2017:** **Volunteer Tutor/Mentor, Reaching Chatham's Children, Pittsboro, NC**
- 2016-2017:** **Volunteer Tutor, Chatham Literacy Council, Siler City, NC**
- 2016-Present:** **Facilitator of various creativity retreats, Pittsboro & Chapel Hill, NC**
- 2016:** **Volunteer Educator with CIS, Chatham Middle School, Siler City, NC**
- 2014:** **Adjunct Faculty – University of St. Joseph, West Hartford, CT**
- 2002-2015:** **Classroom Teacher, Grades 1-6, Torrington Public Schools Torrington, CT**
- 1996-2002:** **Program Coordinator, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, Farmington, CT**
- 1984-1996:** **Manager, Aid to Artisans, Farmington, CT**

***Exhibitions:***

**Holiday Gift Invitational Sale: Alamance Arts, Graham, NC, October 2020-January 2021**

**Various Works: Picasso's Gift Shop, Alamance Arts, Graham, NC, 2020-Present**

**Holiday Card Design Chosen in International Vote, The Art of Compassion Project, displayed and sold at Vegfest, London, November 2019.**

**Holiday Gift Invitational Sale: Alamance Arts, Graham, NC, October 2019-January 2020**

**Various Works: The Root Cellar, Chapel Hill, June-July 2019**

**Various Works, Artists' Exhibit & Sale: NC Artshop, Siler City, NC, February 2019-Present**

**Ferrington Artists' Exhibit, PAF Gallery, Siler City, NC, June-July 2018**

**Painted Collage Works: Folk Art Exhibit, PAF Gallery, Siler City, NC, February-March 2018**

**Various Works: Holiday Art Market: NC Arts Incubator, Siler City, NC, Winter 2017**

**Commissioned pen/ink pieces on exhibit: Clover Hill Vineyards and Winery, Breinigsville, PA, 2017-Present**

**Multi-Media Collage, Ferrington Artists' Exhibit: Liquidambar Gallery, Pittsboro, NC, 2017**

**Various Works Exhibit: Display of Love, T.W. Shoemaker Art, Wyoming, PA, 2016**

**Public Art Installation: Pittsboro Street Piano, Pittsboro, NC, 2016-2019**

**Various Works Exhibit: The Gathering Place, Ferrington Village, Pittsboro, NC 2015**

**Various Works Exhibit: The Sarah West Gallery of Fine Art, Smiths Station, AL, 2015**