

Emily Verdoorn

In case you don't know me or much of my story I thought I'd share a little about myself. Since I was very young I remember spending most of my free time making something – drawing, coloring, painting, or building things out of popsicle sticks or clay. I was homeschooled K-12 which I loved and which gave me more flexibility to pursue my interests. When I was 9 I started taking my first private art lessons. I continued taking art lessons from various private teachers, group lessons, or lessons at the Des Moines Art Center until I graduated from high school. By this time I knew that I wanted to study Visual Art in college. I wanted to practice the craft of artmaking and to become honed and sharp in that craft. I wanted to learn about artists and art theory. I wanted to experience the process of artmaking and grow in what it means to be a co-creator under the Creator. I studied Visual Art at Belhaven University in Jackson Mississippi. Here I was not only taught artmaking skills, theory, and process but also mentored, challenged, and encouraged. In May 2017 I graduated with a Bachelors of Fine Arts in Visual Art.



The process of artmaking is a deep passion in me. Right now I am working on developing a body of work and submitting that work to shows, exhibitions, and galleries. On the other hand, I love sharing this passion. While in high school I worked as a teacher's assistant to the children's classes at the Des Moines Art Center. In my first year of college I began teaching art lessons to a few young people out of my home. Every summer these lessons grew. When I graduated from college I started teaching art lessons and making art full time. I believe that the process of artmaking is something anyone can engage with and that it is something deeply rooted in the way God created us to be. It is a form of work and worship.

When I am not making art and teaching art lessons you might find me outside camping, running, hiking, exploring, or traveling. You can also often find me reading a book by C.S. Lewis or Wendell Berry (two among many favorite authors) and drinking tea.