



**Noyes**  
Museum of Art  
STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

THE NOYES  
*arts garage*  
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Education Guide

January 20 – March 28, 2021

## ***The Links, Incorporated: Karen Y. Buster***

**Opening Reception:  
February 12, 2021  
6:00 – 8:00 pm**



Karen Y. Buster, *Shederick and Me*, paper

Baltimore native Karen Y. Buster was raised in a household amongst other artists. With her mother a designer, brother an artist, and sisters; a dancer and poet, she grew up in a house that encouraged creativity and recognized the source of her art was a gift from a higher power.

Buster's journey into the world of fine arts came through her t-shirt design business, "Bustertizin." What she does not take for granted is the transition from t-shirts to 35+ years of creating fine art originals and prints. Buster hears testimonials from her collectors about how her art speaks and brings solace to their personal situations such as overcoming illness, drug abuse recovery, and finding peace after the loss of a loved one.

Buster's art primarily focuses on creating with positive and negative space. From an early age she was attracted to the unique visual effect of photography negatives and would dream in black and white. These key components hold significance in her work and are the inspiration for her signature look. Buster forms the cut-outs using an x-acto knife, thus achieving the desired negative space.

The introduction of color in her signature cut-outs came via a dream based on a New Orleans jazz club scene. Buster's grandmother always said, "when you dream, it's God that's talking to you." The movement in Buster's work can be traced to her decade-long residency (1977-1987) in New Orleans where she studied and graduated from Dillard University.

Buster's original works are in the private celebrity collections of Queen Latifah, Denzel Washington, Cheryl Lee Ralph, Toni Braxton, Jada Pickett Smith, and Charles Dutton among a host of others. Her prints are also on view in the Beverly Hills and Philadelphia Chambers of Commerce. Among her awards, Buster is the recipient of Baltimore's own "Unsung" Art Exhibition 2014 Female Artist of the Year, The National Coalition of the 100 Black Women's Arts and Culture Award, 2007 and the 2002 recipient of the Black Heritage Visual Arts Association's "Favorite Emerging Artist." Buster is also a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority since 1978.



Karen Y. Buster, *Jester Noir*, paper

The Links, Incorporated is proud to feature Karen Y. Buster as this year's artist. Since 1968, the Atlantic City (NJ) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated has hosted an art show in Atlantic City to celebrate Black History Month. This annual event has evolved to include an opening reception with a presentation from the artist as well as a student art reception. Their goal is to provide, highlight, and educate the community on the contributions of up and coming African American artists.

For more information about Karen Y. Buster, visit: [www.karenybuster.com](http://www.karenybuster.com)

The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University · <http://www.noyesmuseum.org> · (609) 626-3420

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