

Sondra A.Strong

sastrongpaintings@gmail.com

www.sondrastrongart.com

www.artoriginal.com

Facebook Group: Sondra A. Strong Art

501-349-7377



Sondra A. Strong is an Arkansas native who enjoys expressing African-American life in her paintings.

Ms. Strong is currently a national board certified teacher in the Little Rock School District.

Ms. Strong's love for art came at an early age when her father introduced her to oil painting. She began to take art classes throughout junior high and high school. Her love for art grew as she entered various competitions and programs during her high school career. Ms. Strong also earned the distinction in high school of attending Arkansas Governor's School in the field of visual arts. Her goal in life was to pursue a degree in art, but the tables turned and she received a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Mathematics Education. During a visit to Chicago in 2003, she rediscovered her love for art through the mother of a college friend who was an avid collector of African-American Art. It was this particular visit that inspired her to paint again. Ms. Strong loves all aspects of culture and life, but she is particularly fond of what African-American life has to offer. She expresses this fondness by painting the simplicities of life with bold colors and broad strokes. She primarily uses acrylic paints, and she continues to work hard to perfect her love of creating African-American art. In December 2008, Ms. Strong was involved in a serious car accident that shattered both bones in her dominant right forearm. After receiving two plates and several pins to repair her injury, Ms. Strong was forced to take a hiatus from creating art. After months of prayers and encouragement from family and friends, Miss Strong decided to continue her dream of creating art. Her goal is to share her art with everyone, and to expand her craft to eventually represent the beauty of all cultures. Ms Strong thanks God for the gift her father extended to her through the joy of painting.

Ms. Strong has donated several pieces of artwork to several charitable events such as various scholarship fundraisers, the Junior League of Little Rock's 6K Café, the 2008 Benjamin Banneker Conference hosted in Little Rock, and has sold artwork during the Bell Tower Scholarship, Inc. Dinner held annually during the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff's Homecoming at the Little Rock home of Attorney Brenda Stallings. In 2010, Ms. Strong had the distinction of sharing her artwork with the Little Rock community as a featured artist in February 2010 and March 2011 at Community Bakery, as well as vendor at the 2010 National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta, Georgia, and Ms. Strong was selected to be a participant of the V.I.T.AL. Art Collective (Visual Images That Affect Lives), a prominent group of African American artists that creates culture and liberates the minds of the community through visual art. In June 2011, Ms. Strong's work was showcased as a part of the Second Annual V.I.T.A.L. Art Collective at the Arkansas Studies Institute in downtown Little Rock. Pieces of art by S. A. Strong can be viewed and purchased at the Clinton Museum Store in downtown Little Rock as well as from Ms. Strong personally. On December 31, 2011, SA Strong's artwork was inducted in the Mosaic Templar Cultural Center's Creativity Arkansas collection in Little Rock, AR. In 2012 Ms. Strong illustrated her first children's book, *'Twas the Night before Jesus was Born*, by Missouri author, Dora J. Wallace. The book can be purchased on Amazon's website as well as Barnes and Nobles' website.