



Buffalo Arts Studio

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Gabrielle Hall, *Double Vision*, 2024, organza, clamped dye resist, pleats; Brianna Bernas, *Every Cell of My Being*, 2026, needle felted wool

Buffalo Arts Studio presents *In Between Two Tall Mountains* by Gabrielle Hall and *Breathing In and Out* by Brianna Bernas

On View April 24 – May 30, 2026

Artist Reception: Saturday, May 9, 2026, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Part of M&T Fourth Friday at Tri-Main

Buffalo, NY — Buffalo Arts Studio is pleased to present *In Between Two Tall Mountains* by Gabrielle Hall and *Breathing In and Out* by Brianna Bernas, concurrent exhibitions by two senior fiber art majors from Buffalo State University that explore concepts of emotional resilience, adaptability, and making material the immaterial.

The exhibitions will be on view from April 24 through May 30, 2026. An artist reception will be held on Saturday, May 9, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The exhibition and reception are free and open to the public. Both artists will speak briefly about their work starting at 12:00 pm.

Gabrielle Hall's *In Between Two Tall Mountains* is a collection of work inspired by nature, isolation, insignificance, and the complex network of emotions that come along with facing the unknown. Finding comfort in the fact that the world is not within human control, these soft sculptures, weavings, and collages are an exploration of how fiber can be utilized in ways beyond two-dimensional visuals, bridging the gap between art and the space it inhabits. Each piece invites the viewer to interact with movement, sound, and shadow to observe a world that was not made for us.

Brianna Bernas' *Breathing In and Out* deals with the mental and emotional exhaustion that comes from high anxiety, perfectionism, and living in perpetual fear due to past negative experiences. This series of woven and felted pieces looks to the body and nature for symbols of adaptability and strength to challenge notions of emotional resilience and what it means to be "soft" in the face of hardship. Bernas finds the beauty in both the good and bad in life: from strain to regrowth to the tiny moments of light that peer through the darkness.

About the Artists

Gabrielle Hall (b. 1996 in Bennington, Vermont) is a mixed media artist working primarily in fiber and textiles, living in Buffalo, New York. They use strong color contrast and exaggerated texture in their work to turn painful emotions and memories into sculptural textile pieces. Inspired by their childhood in Vermont, Hall connects to their home through color choices and recurring natural themes. Hall will graduate from Buffalo State University with a B.F.A. in Fiber Design in 2026. Their work has been featured in group shows at Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center, WNY Book Arts Center, and the Arts Council of Wyoming County Fiber Flurry of 2025. They are currently working as a textile consultant for Torn Space Theater.

Brianna Bernas is an Art and Design B.F.A. double major in Fibers and Art History and a member of the Muriel A. Howard Honors Program at Buffalo State University. Bernas' work spans a wide variety of mediums, ranging from weaving, wet felting, needle felting, dyeing, sewing, screen printing, pencil, and pen and ink drawing, painting, and mixed media sculpture. She is a recipient of the Dorothy Zautner Buley Weaving Fellowship, Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best in Studio Award, and Nancy Belfer Fiber Design Scholarship at Buffalo State University. Born and raised in Buffalo, New York, Bernas' work has been displayed at Buffalo Arts Studio, Hallwalls, Buffalo Book Arts Center, and the Larkin at Exchange Building, and they can frequently be seen at the Czurlies-Nelson Gallery.

About Buffalo Arts Studio

Buffalo Arts Studio (BAS) connects diverse communities through visual arts, offering inclusive exhibitions, educational programs, mentorships, and public art initiatives. BAS provides vital resources for visual artists, including affordable studio space and paid opportunities. Through its programs, BAS serves as a catalyst for self-empowerment, innovation, and regional enhancement.

This exhibition is generously supported by The Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation, Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, DownRoot Fund, part of the Crossroads Community Fund, Erie County Cultural Funds, M&T Bank, and through the New York State Council for the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature.

Buffalo Arts Studio is located in Suite 500 of the Tri-Main Center at 2495 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14214. The gallery is open Tuesday – Friday, 11 am – 5 pm and Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm. For media inquiries, interview requests, or high-resolution images, please contact Sydney O'Shei at sydney@buffaloartsstudio.org or 716-833-4450 x 114.