

# Thank you to our 2025 Judge

## *Bob Coates*

Working in a wide range of media—including clay, bronze, mixed media, and found objects—Bob creates work inspired by personal experience, the natural environment, and global cultures. His creative process is fluid and evolving, making the current work-in-progress his consistent favorite. Each piece seeks to tell a layered story, blending materials and form to connect with viewers on a personal and emotional level.

Bob holds a Master of Fine Arts in Painting from the University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Wright State University, with a focus on painting and drawing. Additional training in bronze casting was completed through Miami University and David Brand Studio from 2000 to 2012. From 1995 to 2020, he served as a professor at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, Ohio, nurturing the next generation of artists and contributing significantly to the region's arts education.

His commitment to community engagement is reflected in a range of creative initiatives. These include co-founding and coordinating the Osborn Historic Garden Affair and the En Plein Air Landscape Exhibition in partnership with the B-W Greenway Community Land Trust and the City of Fairborn. Bob also launched the Sinclair Student Art Sale, which raised over \$40,000 in scholarship funds, and organized art-based community sessions through Sinclair's Reach Conference. Most recently, he has led artist workshops, curated local exhibitions, and served as a juror and lecturer.

Exhibitions of his work span several decades and include juried, solo, and invitational shows at institutions such as the Springfield Museum of Art, Rosewood Gallery, the Dayton Society of Artists, and the Edward A. Dixon Gallery. His art has been recognized with multiple awards in both sculpture and mixed media, reflecting a deep and continuing evolution of style and technique.

Bob is an active member of the Dayton Society of Artists, The Contemporary Dayton, and the Springfield Museum of Art. Whether through making, teaching, or organizing, he strives to build meaningful connections through art. He is honored to be part of this exhibition and recognizes the valuable insight that juror Bob Coates brings to the show.

