

LeMoyne-Owen College

# Magician Spotlight

October 2021

## Meet Phillip Dotson, Professor of Art

From October 3, 2021 - January 2, 2022, Mr. Phillip Dotson, renowned artist, will have art on display at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens (Memphis, TN) in the Mallory/Wurtzbuger Galleries.

Mr. Phillip "Phil" Dotson, has been a member of the Magician family for 49.5 years and is currently a professor of art in the Fine Arts and Humanities Department.



Mr. Dotson enjoys teaching art and providing opportunities for his current and former students to gain exposure to the arts and artists. November 26, 2021 through February 28, 2022, five of his former students will have their art on display alongside the works of other HBCU alumni and their primary professors. The exhibit will be hosted in Wilmington, North Carolina and sponsored by the Arts Council of Wilmington. The theme of the exhibit is *Common Roots: Many Branches - Artists from Historically Black Colleges and Universities*. "It's significant to have a hand in elevating the work of my students to a national platform," says Dotson.

Mr. Dotson credits his former professor and colleague, Lawrence A. Jones, with giving him the advice that led him to LeMoyne-Owen College. Jones told him LOC could benefit from having someone like Dotson to help stabilize its art department. After meeting with then president, Odell Horton, and accepting a position, Mr. Dotson accepted the charge and has made great strides in building a vast collection for the College. Today the College's collection contains 8 Hale Woodruff pieces (currently on loan to the Dixon), pieces by both Aaron Douglas and Vertis Hayes, and a carving done by a former slave that was given to the College by the T. O'Neal Crivens family, just to name a few.

In his free time, Mr. Dotson practices his craft and leads community enhancing efforts like the annual MLK day of service clean-up in 38126 around the College. Mr. Dotson finds it most gratifying to see and hear the reception of art and the responses of patrons as they express their appreciation for the work.

As part of the exhibit at the Dixon, there will be a Meet the Artist Reception on Thursday, November 18, 2021 from 5 - 7 pm. This event is free to the public.

The LOC Magician Family proudly salutes and congratulates Mr. Dotson. Be sure to catch the exhibit at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens before January 2, 2022.

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