

Julia Peterson

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Current Creative Research

In my work I use photography, metals, natural materials, and interdisciplinary media to express human impacts on nature, ourselves, and others. I have a deep relationship with nature, and with that comes an understanding of what is happening in the natural space around me. Over the past few decades, we have seen dramatic disturbances in nature, most of which are being caused by humans. Whether it be oil spills, wildfires, poaching, or other means of disturbance, we have an undeniable impact on the plant life around us. In turn, this is also having major impacts on us as humans, both in our relationships with each other and with ourselves. I work to further explore these human impacts, dissolving the ideology that these issues are political issues, but rather issues of our planet's future and our future as human beings.

Education

2025 BA, Studio Arts and Technology, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
 BS, Plant Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Exhibitions

2025 "Terraform" graduate installation group exhibition, Martell Forest, West Lafayette, IN
 "NCFH Annual Spring/Summer Exhibition", Lyles-Porter Hall, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
 "National Society of Arts & Letters Competition and Exhibition", FAR Center for Contemporary Arts & Pictura Gallery, Bloomington, IN

“Botanical”, Manifest Creative Research Gallery, Cincinnati, OH

- 2024 “Artist’s Choice”, The Beyond Gallery, Lafayette, IN
- “Next Generation – University Art Exhibition”, Honeywell Arts & Entertainment Center, Wabash, IN
- “CLICK 2024 Annual Juried Photography Exhibition”, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- Work Displayed in Purdue’s Presidential Westwood Residence, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- “Odds & Ends” emerging artist group exhibition, Rueff Gallery, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- “2024 Art & Design Undergraduate Exhibition” undergraduate group Exhibition, Ringel Gallery, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2023 “Disconnected” graduate installation group exhibition, 664 Main Street, Lafayette, IN
- “2023 Art & Design Undergraduate Exhibition” undergraduate group exhibition, Ringel Gallery, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- Purdue University Botany and Plant Pathology Plant Art Competition, Lilly Hall of Life Science, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2022 Lollapurdueza, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2021 Beech Grove Art Festival in the Park “Masterpiece in a Day” Competition, Sarah Bolton Park, Beech Grove, IN
- 2020 Indiana State 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor
- Hancock County 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
- Hancock County 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor

- 2019 Indiana State 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor
- 2018 Indiana State 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor
- 2017 Hancock County 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor
- 2016 Hancock County 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor
- 2015 Hancock County 4-H Fair Fine Arts Exhibitor
 Hancock County 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Exhibitor

Professional Experience

- 2025 Packaging Designer, Legacy Maker Meats, Reynolds, IN
 Scenic Designer, Saints On Stage “Little Shop of Horrors” Alumni Production,
 Indianapolis, IN
 Program Coordinator, Silver Mountain Artist Residency, Victor, CO

Awards

- 2026 Penland Partner for Purdue University, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2025 Purdue PROMISE Grant Recipient, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

- 2024 “Odds & Ends” emerging artist group exhibition “Best in Metals” award,
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
1st Prize Metals for the 2024 Art & Design Undergraduate Exhibition, Purdue
University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2023 Outstanding Sophomore Award in the Studio Arts and Technology
department at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
- 2020 Indiana State 4-H Fair Needle Crafts Honors Recognition
- 2019 Indiana State 4-H Fair Fine Arts Honors Recognition
- 2018 Indiana State 4-H Fair Fine Arts Honors Recognition

Nominations

- 2024 Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts at Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN
Wingate Fellowship
- 2023 Outstanding Sophomore Award in the Studio Arts and Technology
department at Purdue University

Service

- 2024 Purdue Art Jewelry and Metals Association (PAJAMA) President

Professional Affiliations

- 2024 Botany Club President at Purdue University
Lafayette Spinner’s Guild

2023 Botany Club Vice President at Purdue University

Collected Works

2025 Private Collector in Denver, CO

2022 Several Private Collectors in West Lafayette, IN

Several Private Collectors in Lafayette, IN

Several Private Collectors in Indianapolis, IN

Private Collector in Decatur, IL

2021 Private Collector in Beech Grove, IN