

## Delta folk artist brings color and warm blues to GH

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Contemporary folk artist Mica Brewer, from the Deep Delta, had a successful showing last weekend at the Carlyn Gallery, 207 Washington St. More than 50 patrons attended and were greeted by live blues guitar music, a slide presentation featuring Brewer's small, rural town, and a dozen acrylic paintings focused on blues and jazz legends with roots in Mississippi.

"This opening was a breath of fresh air for our area and everyone who attended had an opportunity to meet an extremely talented and down-to-earth artist," said Heather Hoeksema, gallery representative. "I even laughed when she shared a story about her town barber. He went on a hunt, shot 85 squirrels, and brought them to Mica as a thank you gift for a painting she created for him," Hoeksema said.

The holiday showing in Grand Haven continues through early January and the public is encouraged to attend.

"I really enjoyed meeting all the warm people from the Tri-Cities, Muskegon, and Grand Rapids this weekend," Brewer said. "It was wonderful, for me, to see the snow. I have not seen snow since I was four years old. It touched me that folks braved the cold to enjoy my art."

Brewer has openings scheduled next in Jackson, Miss., Miami, Fla., and Santa Barbara, Calif.

Brewer said that Sharkey County, her home, is one of the most impoverished places in America. But it is rich in history and tradition that dates back to the earliest days of blues and jazz. It is the birthplace of Muddy Waters and some of his relatives reside there today.

She produces artworks in the mediums of acrylic paintings and furniture, murals, watercolor paintings, glazed ceramics, and drawings. Her gallery is located in Rolling Fork, Mississippi.

Brewer started painting from family encyclopedias when she was three years old.



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