

UNCW PRINTFEST

Since 2015, UNCW's Art & Art History Department has hosted a biennial event called "PRINTFEST". The event is a day-long public printmaking showcase held outside of the Cultural Arts building.

Using a construction paving roller and an unlikely press bed - the front parking lot of the Cultural Arts Building - a team of artists and volunteers work collaboratively to print large-scale woodcuts throughout the day.



Using the paving roller as a printing press...



Revealing a print - Jennifer Page & Topher Alexander

For each of the PRINTFEST EVENTS, dozens of independent artists and multiple colleges from across North Carolina have carved designs into 4' x 6' wood, which were then inked and printed on muslin before a live audience.

The theme of the woodcut designs each year is based on the work of local non-profits in the hopes of introducing these groups to UNCW students and the local community. In the past, the non-profits chosen have included Cape Fear River Watch, Fully Belly Project, Cape Fear Guardian Ad Litem, and Plastic Ocean Project.

The large, unique prints are available for purchase during the event and a portion of the sale amount is given to the non-profit. Each individual block is printed in a limited edition of three.



Inking the blocks...



UNCW students doing some final carving.



Drying the finished prints...