



Joan Butterfield is a prolific artist, with her works appearing across North America. She has created over 8,000 works of art and participated in hundreds of solo and group exhibits. Joan's works can be found in homes, civic buildings, boardrooms, galleries and public spaces around the world.

Joan has received accolades in both Canada and the USA, and is the founder and art director for the Association of African-Canadian Artists and curator of their critically acclaimed COLOURblind Art Exhibitions. She served from 2006-2011 as a member of the Board of Directors for the Scotiabank Caribana Festival, Producer and Curator of their annual art exhibition held at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Immigrating to Canada in 1964 Joan worked tirelessly to overcome the challenges that await new immigrants to Canada. While living in a new country, Joan turned to the study of the ancient art form of decoupage. She and her husband are originally from Bermuda and are the proud parents of three successful adults and five beautiful grandchildren. She studied in New York, Boston and Toronto. After completing her formal education and having an affinity for Canada, Joan settled in the GTA, where she still resides and practices her craft.

Early in her career, Joan was drawn to the 17th Century art form of "Three Dimensional Decoupage", an art form that allowed her to tap into her creative energy and freely apply and utilize her artistic skills and talents. It is from the basics of this art form, together with her ability to combine it with current art techniques, that "The Butterfield Technique" was developed. It has become a powerful vehicle for inspiring dialogue regarding contemporary and historical art forms.

Recognizing that the broader community was unfamiliar with this art form, Joan was determined to show her work in the best possible way and became her own curator. In 1988, she signed an exclusive agreement with Essence Art, a division of Essence Magazine, which introduced her work to the American public at "Art Expo" in New York City.

In 1995, The Canadian Human Rights Commission chose Joan to curate their Black History Month "Human Rights through Art," an exhibit that emphasized the importance of human rights in Canada. In September 2000, Joan produced "Pathway to Success" posters, which incorporated images of black children and distributed them to local schools. In 2001, Joan was invited to participate in "The Paper Trail" at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre, an event designed to educate the public on the timeless beauty of paper art.

Joan's exciting journey continues, with her most recent innovation of "Photo Artistry" - The pushing of Photography, beyond the boundaries of the conventional.

Matriarch to a community of African-Canadian Artists, Joan has written a book, 'Starving Artist's Guide to Riches', and hundreds of articles that encourage and assist budding artists to maximize their talents. Through Joan's efforts, the community of African-Canadian artists is gaining strength in the field of visual arts. Across North America and beyond, many more people's stories are being displayed and enjoyed as a result of Joan Butterfield's achievements and perseverance.