

## The Gallery

The purpose of the Stillwater Public Library Gallery is to provide education through exhibits and displays; to increase community involvement in the library; and to provide an enjoyable environment for the library's users.

For more information about the gallery,  
contact Sue Hedin  
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# Within

An Exhibition of Drawings  
by Jennifer Davenport

May - June 2018  
Stillwater Public Library Gallery

Reception Sunday, May 6, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm



## Artist Statement

One of my favorite things about making art is immersing myself in a subject that I'm fascinated with or curious about, and then presenting it in a way that highlights the qualities I find beautiful.

My latest body of work is a series of charcoal drawings depicting young girls in moments of concentration, exploration, and discovery. They were inspired by my daughter and other girls that I had met while assistant teaching for a year. As they played, I could see them using their imagination, trying things out, making connections. They hadn't yet absorbed the expectations our society puts on girls in relation to gender and power, and hadn't yet learned to doubt themselves. They knew their own voices and were truly themselves in these moments. To me, this is beautiful.

These girls represent my own lifelong journey towards a kinder self-understanding and broader perception of the world we live in.

## About the Artist

Raised in the midwest by an inventor father and book-loving mother, Jennifer Davenport has always felt the impulse to create. As a kid, she wrote in journals to document and understand her life, and loved every minute of art classes in school. Later, in college, Jennifer discovered that fine art was an instinctive visual language she could use to explore ideas and make connections with others.

After graduating Valedictorian in 1999 with a BFA in Drawing from the College of Visual Arts in St. Paul, Jennifer spent time illustrating exhibit displays for the Science Museum of Minnesota. She also worked on private commissions, creating portraits of children and pets for clients.

Now, after years focusing on being "Mom" to her own young children, Jennifer is working again and has returned to fine art. Her latest body of work, large charcoal drawings of girls, refer to her interest in themes of introspection, personal growth and social justice. She's excited to continue exploring these ideas in her work.

Jennifer lives in Stillwater, Minnesota, with her husband Scott, daughter Nora, and son Adam.

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