



Wilmington celebrates the legacy of artist and activist **Dorothy Gillespie** in collaboration with The Dorothy M. Gillespie Foundation. Gillespie had close ties in Wilmington through a long-time friendship with Tony Rivenbark, Executive Director of Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts, who worked as her studio assistant in the 1970s. Rivenbark brought Gillespie and her art to the Cape Fear Region, where her legacy continues through the public display of her works across multiple venues. Today, Wilmington presents the most public art by Dorothy Gillespie in the U.S.

*“ Seeing in the mind’s eye a vision – then setting up a procedure to produce the vision – then having the courage to let the spiritual core of the human experience come to the fore in that vision; maybe this has something to do with creativity. ”*

– Dorothy Gillespie



Above:  
“Monarch Ritual II” 1982  
Enamel on aluminum  
27”H x 16”W x 8”D

Cover Photo:  
“Festive Ribbon” 2006  
Enamel on aluminum  
17”H x 10”W x 6”D

Photo Credits: WAZgriffin

Dorothy Gillespie’s (1920-2012) career spanned seven decades, always in the forefront of the American Art movement. A renowned painter, sculptor, and installation artist, Dorothy Gillespie’s work encompassed many significant 20th-century trends in art, including abstract expressionism, decorative abstraction, site-specific installations, the women’s movement, and art in public spaces. She pioneered new directions for metal sculpture and is best known for her large-scale, colorfully painted arrangements of cut aluminum strips that radiate, undulate, or curl in giant arrangements of ribbon, enchanted towers, or bursting fireworks.



The  
Dorothy M.  
Gillespie  
Foundation

[www.dorothygillespie.com](http://www.dorothygillespie.com)

Artin  
Bloom  
GALLERY

[www.aibgallery.com](http://www.aibgallery.com)

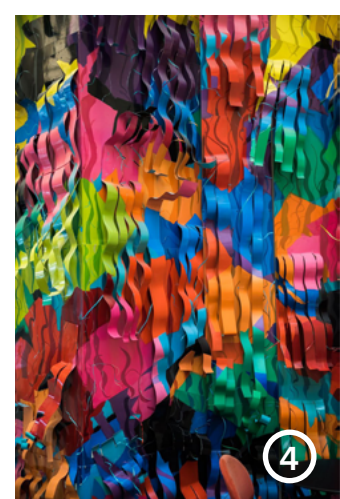


# DOROTHY GILLESPIE

Art in Public Places in Wilmington, NC



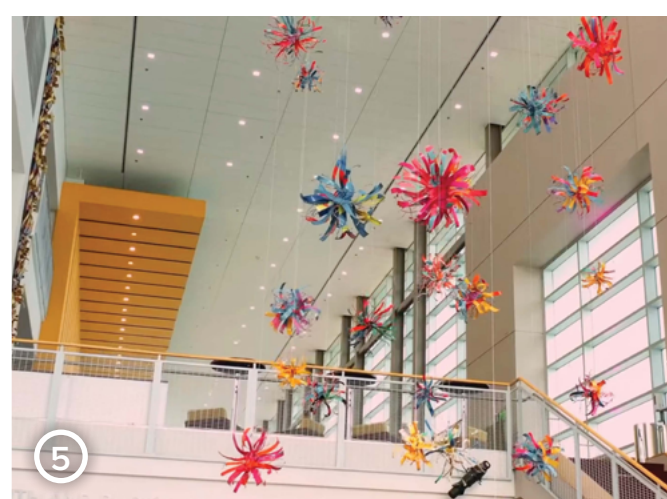




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## PERMANENT LOCATIONS

### 1. Art in Bloom Gallery

970 Inspiration Dr, Mayfaire Town Center  
(910) 679-4257 [www.aibgallery.com](http://www.aibgallery.com)

### 2. Cameron Art Museum (Permanent Collection)

*Periodically on view*

3201 South 17th St  
(910) 395-5999 <https://cameronartmuseum.org/>

### 3. New Hanover County Arboretum

6206 Oleander Dr  
(910) 798-7660 <https://nhcgov.com/161>

### 4. Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts

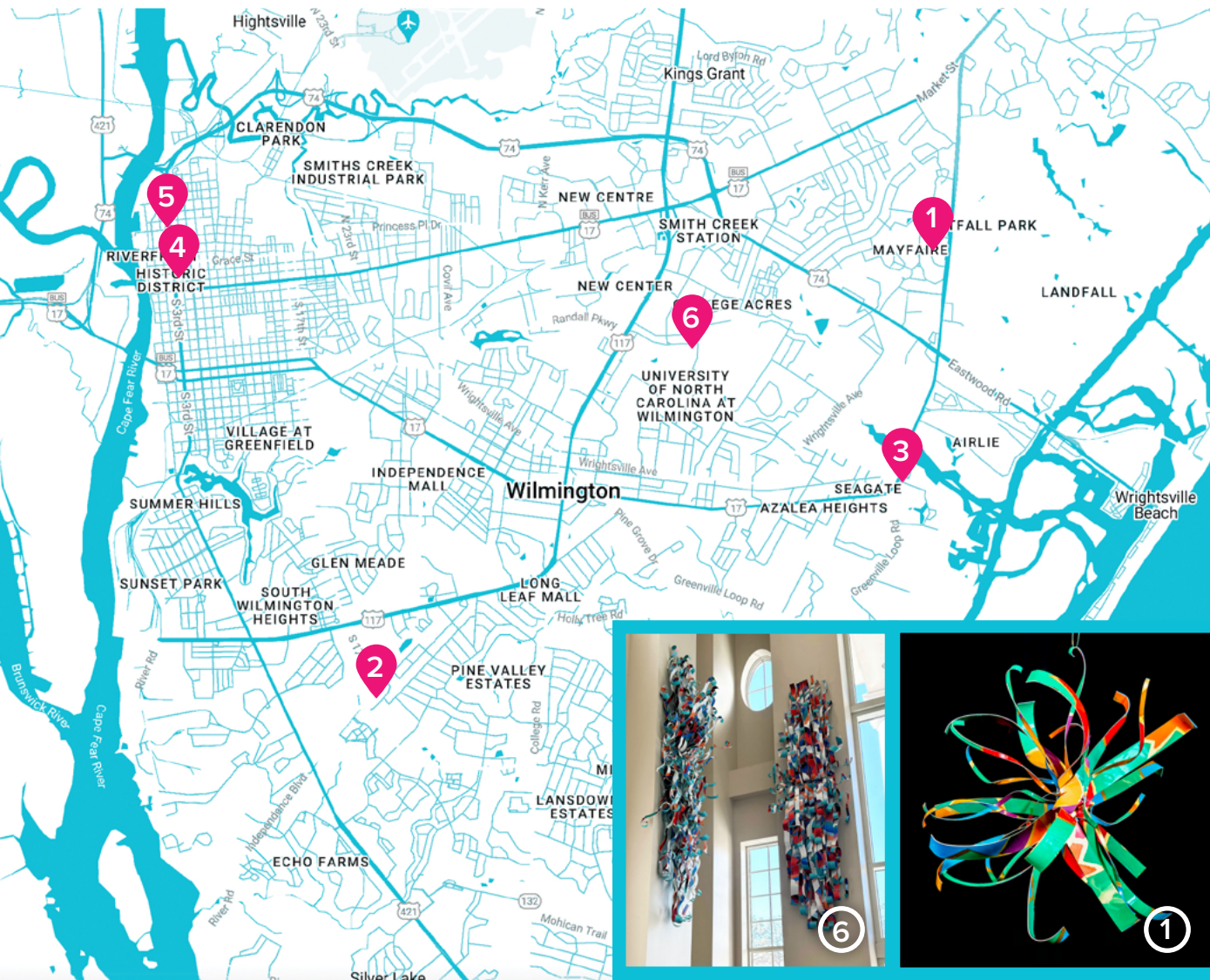
310 Chestnut St  
(910) 632-2285 <https://www.thalianhall.org/>

### 5. Wilma W. Daniel's Gallery & Wilson Center Cape Fear Community College

200 Hanover St - 703 North 3rd St  
(910) 362-7252 <https://cfcc.edu/>

### 6. Cultural Arts Building (Lobby) University of North Carolina Wilmington

5270 Randall Dr  
(910) 962-3031 <https://uncw.edu/>



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