

Resume-Trustina Fafa Sabah

Gourd Artist | Educator | Community Arts Advocate

Baltimore, Maryland

Founder, *Gourds By Fafa Studio*

Professional Summary

Trustina Fafa Sabah is a Ghanaian-born gourd artist based in Baltimore, Maryland. Since discovering gourd art in 2016, she has built her studio practice, Gourds By Fafa where she makes functional and decorative gourd art, lamps and provides community-centered art education. Through exhibitions, teaching, and public programs, her work contributes to Maryland's arts ecosystem by expanding access to craft traditions and creative expression.

Studio Practice

Founder & Artist, Gourds By Fafa Studio | 2016–Present

- Creates hand-carved gourd sculptures, lamps, bowls and vessels inspired by Ghanaian heritage and themes of peace and beauty
- Exhibits and sells original work in Maryland, nationally, and online
- Leads hands-on gourd art workshops for adults, youth and children across Maryland and in Tennessee

Exhibitions & Sales

- **Smithsonian National Museum of African Art**, Washington, D.C. — Exhibited & sold work (2024, 2025)
- **The REACH at the Kennedy Center**, Washington, D.C. — Exhibited & sold work 2024
- **The Barn at Wellspring**, Upper Marlboro, MD — Exhibiting artist 2022-present
- **Baltimore Farmers' Market** — Exhibits & sells work 2021-present
- **Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts – Instructor Exhibition** (2022–2025; upcoming 2026)
- **Baltimore County Public Library, Hereford Branch** — Artist-in-Residence Exhibition (2023)

Teaching & Community Engagement

- **Artist-in-Residence**, Baltimore County Public Library (2022)
 - Led gourd art workshops for adult and youth patrons; continued programming beyond residency
- **Instructor**, Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts (2022, 2023, 2025 Upcoming 2026)
- Ongoing workshops for BCPL Maryland libraries,

Awards

- **First Place & Best in Division**, North Carolina Gourd Society
80th Anniversary Gourd Show (2022)