



ABOUT BRANDON VIRGIL, SR.

THE NORTHEAST LOUISIANA ARTS COUNCIL:
SPOTLIGHTING THE ARTISTS, MAKERS & VISIONARIES
THAT MAKE THE ARTS CULTURE OF REGION 8 VIBRANT



Brandon Virgil Sr. is a renowned visual artist originally from Lake Providence, Louisiana. Brandon studied Graphic Design at Northeast Louisiana University in 1997. With a vibrant and diverse body of work, he has garnered recognition across the United States and internationally, most recently London. Brandon's artistic achievements have been celebrated with prestigious accolades, including the Northeast Louisiana Arts Council's 2024 Edmund Williamson Artist of the Year award for Region 8. He was also one of two nominees for the award in 2023. Brandon was honored with the Humanitarian award in 2021 by the City of Richwood, highlighting his dedication to using art as a tool for

social good. In addition to his artistic endeavors, Brandon plays an active role in his community as a project coordinator & director of public arts. Together with his wife Charlene Virgil, he is the co-founder of Kids Club, a free monthly art meetup for the youth of Region 8.

When did you begin making art?

Art for me began in elementary school.

What does your work aim to say?

In my artistic endeavors, I strive to embody a myriad of purposes, tailored to each unique project. Primarily, I aspire to cultivate a positive mental ambiance & communicate profound message without saying a word. Through the nuanced interplay of abstraction, vibrant colors & figurative expression, I seek to invoke emotional resonance & facilitate a visual dialogue that speaks to its viewers.

Who are your biggest influences?

My family, colleagues & favorite music artists.

What inspires you?

My personal experiences & music.

What's your favorite piece of artwork that you've created?

it's a toss up between one of my most recent works, "Sunkissed" & my first mural with Black Creative Circle of North Louisiana, "Rise".

How do you work? When do you feel the most creative?

I work with music or a podcast & usually early mornings & late nights.

What is your most important artist tool? Is there something you can't live without in your studio?

My iPad & pencil. I definitely can't go without either of those two.

How do you know a work is finished?

For me it's not until I'm satisfied with all parts of the project. Sometimes it's a long process & other times surprisingly quicker.

What's your most embarrassing moment?

My first television appearance has to top the list. just as the cameraman said "in three", I poured with sweat!

What advice would you give to an artist just starting out?

Create your seat & your creativity & dedication will shine brighter than any tool or resource. Believe in your vision, work hard & never stop learning & growing as an artist.

