

Diane Allen Groenert

was born in San Diego in 1949 and traveled with her Navy family around the states and Japan until graduating from high school in Annandale, Virginia. She did three semesters at the University of New Hampshire in the Art Department, dropped out to hitch-hike the East Coast a bit, and ended up in Fort Wayne ready to go to the Division of General and Technical Studies at Indiana University, earning an Associate Degree in Commercial Art in 1974.

Some classes were taught at the Fort Wayne School of Fine Arts, where she fell in love with the School and the Neighborhood it was in, West Central. The day Diane graduated, she moved into 915 West Wayne Street and has lived in the neighborhood ever since. For her graduating class Diane did a T-shirt and then started a tiny T-shirt Printing Company, Bitch Limited, designing and silk-screening, which morphed into airbrushed clothing. During this time she rented several different spaces for gallery, studio and studio space for other artists: Woman's Work at 1122 ½ Broadway, A Building Gallery at 1026 West Berry, B Building Gallery at 1018 West Berry, the Art Factory at 340 East Berry, ArtUp at 125 West Wayne, and now her own West Central Studio. The Art Factory and ArtUp were downtown, the rest in West Central's Historic District. In 1999 she began her House Portrait Series.