

# Cetin “Chef” Oguz

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## Education

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- 2003    Memphis College of Arts, Memphis, Tennessee  
         MFA in Studio Art
- 2001    Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi  
         Bachelor of Fine Arts: Studio Art Painting and Drawing
- 1993-   1998 Mimar Sinan University, Istanbul, Turkiye  
         Studied Painting and Drawing

## Leadership Strengths and Philosophy

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I am a dedicated academic leader with a strong background in higher education administration, specializing in critical areas such as curriculum review and development, academic advising, fundraising, program accreditation, budget management, marketing, student recruitment, and personnel management. My expertise in these areas enables me to drive initiatives that enhance both the academic and operational aspects of the institution.

I am deeply committed to staying informed about the latest trends, technologies, and best practices in higher education. This commitment ensures that the programs and strategies I implement are not only current but also forward-thinking, positioning the institution for long-term success.

My leadership style is both persistent and collaborative. I work closely with colleagues, faculty, and stakeholders to foster an environment of mutual respect and shared goals. My focus is always on organizational growth and development, ensuring that the institution thrives and continues to meet the needs of its students and community.

## Professional Accomplishments

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- National Association of School of Arts and Design (NASAD) Visiting Evaluator (2023-Present); Conducted interviews with administrative leadership, faculty members, staff, and students.
- Serving as the NASAD liaison for Delta State University.

- Leading a successful NASAD self-study re-accreditation effort, affirming the department's commitment to maintaining the highest academic standards.
- Receiving approval from NASAD to create an MFA in Studio Art (low residency) program, one of only three terminal degrees ever offered at DSU- and only low residency MFA program in Mississippi.
- Completing the NASAD final listing for accreditation of the BFA in Studio Art (Animation) and the MFA in Studio Art (low residency) degrees.
- Collaborated with a team of faculty to develop the MFA in Studio Art (low residency) program.
- Authored the Delta State University Art Department Optional Response Report for accreditation (2023).
- Served as curriculum committee member and chair in the creation of three new degrees: BA in Digital Media, BA and BAS in Art Entrepreneurship.
- Japan Studies Institute Fellow (June 6-19, 2016) Participated in seminars at San Diego State University, San Diego, CA, USA.
- Japan Studies Institute Seminar Fellow (July 2-14, 2017). Participated in seminars in Tokyo, Kyoto, and Beppu, Japan.
- Presented at the 2017 Southwest Conference on Asian Studies, "Japanese Calligraphy Inspired Abstract Expressionist Paintings" in Dallas, TX, USA.
- Taught at Shangqiu Normal University in Summer of 2017 and 2018.
- Arranged and supported study-abroad trips to Turkiye, Brazil, and Austria.
- Acquired over \$500,000 in donations and grants as chair.
- Created Studio 230 Art Gallery/ Artist Studio in 2014.
- Created Cooper- Oguz LLC
- Over 50 exhibitions, awards and honors in the visual arts.
- Completed over 20 training courses related to teaching, advising, and course design.
- Arranged and supported study-abroad trips to various countries including Turkey, Brazil, and Austria.

## Work History

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|-----------------|---|
| 2003 to Present | DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY – CLEVELAND, MISSISSIPPI                 |
| 2025 to Present | Wright Art Center, Gallery Director                             |
| 2022 to Present | Graduate Program Coordinator, MFA in Studio Art (low Residency) |
| 2020-2024       | Department Chair  |
| 2019-2020       | Faculty Senate President  |
| 2022-2024       | University Curriculum Committee Member                          |
| 2017 to Current | Professor of Art  |
| 2010-2016       | Associate Professor of Art                                      |
| 2003-2009       | Assistant Professor of Art                                      |

## Exhibitions

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### Solo Exhibitions

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|------|---|
| 2021 | Blurry Clarities, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Biloxi, MS  |
| 2020 | Blurry Clarities, University of North Alabama Art Gallery, Florence, AL |

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| 2011              | Memphis College of Arts Alumni Gallery, Memphis, TN  |
| 2010              | University of North Alabama Art Gallery, Florence, AL  |
| Group Exhibitions |  |
| 2003 to Present   | Delta State University Art Department Faculty Exhibition   |
| 2025              | Look at Me, International, Juried,<br>51st Annual Bi-State Competition and Exhibition,<br>Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS   |
| 2024              | 32nd Annual Emerald Coast National Juried Art Exhibition,<br>Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, FL<br>Southside Gallery Summer Exhibition, Oxford, MS<br>50th Annual Bi-State Competition and Exhibition,<br>Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS<br>Abstraction: Forms, Lines, Colors – International, Juried<br>(Exhibition and Publication) |
| 2023              | Biafarin 3rd Annual Awards International, Juried<br>(Grant, Publication and Exhibition)<br><i>Abstract Zone 2023</i> , international, juried<br><i>Rebellion 2023</i> , International, Juried  |
| 2021              | Greenville Art Council Group Exhibition, Invitational, Summer 2021   |
| 2020              | Lauren Rogers Museum of Art, Invitational, Laurel, MS  |
| 2018              | <i>A Miracle on Court Street</i> , Studio 230 Art Gallery Cleveland, MS  |
| 2017              | <i>Get Sm-ART</i> , Studio 230 Art Gallery Group Exhibition,<br>August 26- November 28, Cleveland, MS<br><i>Spring in a Small Town</i> , Studio 230 Art Gallery-April 1-May 20, 2017,<br>Cleveland, MS   |
| 2016              | <i>Art of the South</i> , Juried Art Competition, Memphis & Nashville, TN  |
| 2013              | Flight 2020: The Vision of Cleveland, Ellis Theatre, Cleveland, MS<br><i>Ride the Line</i> , Performance Art, Cleveland, MS  |
| 2012              | <i>Artists by Artists</i> , Invitational, curated by David Lambert,<br>Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson, MS<br>Flight 2020: The Vision of Cleveland, Ellis Theatre, Cleveland, MS<br><i>WORLDS APART</i> , Two-man Show, Mattie Kelly Arts Galleries Center,<br>Niceville, FL  |
| 2011              | Bi-State Art Competition, Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS<br>Merigold Arts Cooperative Exhibition, Jackson, MS  |
| 2010              | <i>Delta Connection</i> , Adam Miller's Gallery, Concord, NC<br>Cottonlandia Museum Invitational, Greenwood, MS  |
| 2009              | Two Man Show, January 3-31, Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS   |
| 2008              | "Feast For the Eye", Juried, Indianola, MS<br>Bi-State Art Invitational, Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS  |
| 2007              | Bi-State Art Invitational, Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS<br>"Delta Connection", Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS  |
| 2005              | "Art Miniature", Cleveland, MS.  |
| 2004              | Warehouse Group Exhibition, Cleveland, MS.   |
| 2003              | Memphis College of Arts, Drawing Show, Memphis, TN<br>MFA Thesis Exhibition, Interception, Memphis, TN   |
| 2002              | Tipton Community College, Group Exhibition, Covington, TN  |

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| 2000 | First Street Gallery Group Show, Grenada, MS                           |
| 1998 | The Others, Group Exhibition, Installation: Yuzucu , Istanbul, Turkiye |

## Professional Engagements and Artistic Development

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| 2023 | Artistonish Magazine 36th Issue - July 2023  |
| 2022 | We Met in Memphis: Vol. 2, Artworks published  |
| 2020 | We Met in Memphis: Vol. 1, Artworks published  |
| 2018 | <i>Between the Lines</i> , presentation, Shangqiu Normal University<br>Teaching Residency, Shangqiu Normal University, Henan Province, China,<br>May 11-28<br>Flight 2020: A Community- Based Art Project, Winning the Race<br>Conference, March 26-27, presentation, Delta State University, Cleveland,<br>MS   |
| 2017 | Japanese Calligraphy Inspired Abstract Expressionist Paintings, Southwest<br>Conference on Asian Studies, presentation, Dallas, TX, U.S.A.<br>Japan Studies Institute Seminar Fellow, July 2-14, Tokyo, Kyoto, and<br>Beppu, Japan<br>Shangqiu Normal University, Teaching Residency, May 6-19: taught drawing<br>and painting<br>Shangqiu Normal University, Personal Journey, presentation |
| 2016 | Japan Studies Institute, Fellowship, June 6-19, San Diego State University,<br>San Diego, CA   |
| 2015 | Flight 2020: The Vision of Cleveland, presentation, during the Mississippi Art<br>Education Conference, Cleveland, MS  |
| 2012 | FATE- Foundations of Art Conference, attendee Portland, OR   |
| 2010 | What is International Communication Dialog?: Notes from Istanbul,<br>Turkiye, panelist, Delta State University, Cleveland, MS  |
| 2008 | Lecture and slide presentation on Turkey, Cleveland Exchange Club,<br>Cleveland, MS<br><i>Meet us in Turkey</i> , presentation, Cleveland, MS<br><i>Delta to Istanbul</i> , presentation, Cleveland, MS<br><i>The Delta Connection</i> , gallery talk, Meridian, MS  |
| 2005 | SECAC- Southeastern Collegiate Art Conf., attendee, Little Rock, AR<br>Looking Forward Through the Arts: A Celebration of the Arts on the theme<br>Alternative to the Sword, Division of Languages and Literature, presentation,<br>Cleveland, MS  |
| 2004 | Looking Forward through the Arts: In celebration of the inauguration of<br>Dr. John Hilpert, presentation, Cleveland, MS   |

## Collections

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Mississippi Institution of Higher Learning, Jackson, MS  
Wiley Community Garden, mural and sculptures, Cleveland, MS  
Museum of the Mississippi Delta, Greenwood, MS  
Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS

Delta State University, Cleveland, MS  
Shangqiu Normal University, Shangqiu, China  
ENKA Corporation, Istanbul, Turkey  
Viking Range Corporation, Greenwood, MS  
Sanders Corporation, Cleveland, MS

## Awards and Honors

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|------|---|
| 2017 | Delta State University Faculty Research and Grant Award<br>Daughters of American Revolution Americanism Award: This award is given to a naturalized citizen who has shown extraordinary contributions to the society.   |
| 2016 | Kappa Pi International Fraternity Grant<br>Dulce Fund Faculty Development Grant<br>American Associations of Colleges and Universities Japan Studies Institute Travel Grant: Travelled to Tokyo, Kyoto, and Beppu, Japan |
| 2013 | Best in Drawing, Crosstie Arts Festival, Cleveland, MS  |
| 2012 | Best in Drawing, Crosstie Arts Festival, Cleveland, MS  |
| 2011 | Best in Drawing, Crosstie Arts Festival, Cleveland, MS  |
| 2010 | Mary Jayne Whittington Purchase Award<br>Best in Show, Cottonlandia Bi-Annual Art Competition   |
| 2008 | Bi-State Juried Art Competition, Best in Show   |
| 2007 | Delta Newsletter, Interview, Cleveland, MS<br>Bi-State Art Invitational Merit Award, Meridian Museum of Art, Meridian, MS   |
| 2006 | Kent and Janice Wyatt Faculty Development Project Grant   |
| 2001 | Memphis College of Art, Graduate Studies Scholarship<br>Award of Excellence, Zen Series, Mississippi Collegiate Show, Jackson, MS<br>Interview on Recent Paintings, Delta News Leader, Cleveland, MS                    |

## Philanthropy Projects

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### THE COOPER-OGUZ ART FIELD STUDY FUND

This was established by Cetin and Carmen Cooper Oguz in 2014 to fund travel and/or expenses incurred by student/students participating in field arts study trips of Delta State University as determined by the Chair of the Department of Art.

### CETIN OGUZ AND CARMEN COOPER OGUZ ANNUAL SWIMMING & DIVING SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship was created in 2018 in recognition of Cetin Oguz, native of Istanbul, Turkiye. This scholarship supports and highlights the mutual journey of international students who swim/may swim for Delta State University as Cetin Oguz did. All gifts will be made payable to the Delta State University Foundation, Inc. to fund the Cetin Oguz and Carmen Cooper Oguz Swimming & Diving Scholarship.

## Memberships

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Southeastern Collegiate Art Conference annual membership  
FATE- Foundations in Art Theory and Education annual membership

SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Public Arts Commission Member, Cleveland, MS

Cleveland Heritage Commission, Commissioner, Cleveland, MS

International Rotary Club Member