

***Portrait of My Son***

18 x 20 inches

Gouache, Paper, Foamcore  
NFS

**Kimberly Powers**

Website: [kvpowersdesign.com](http://kvpowersdesign.com)

Instagram: [@kvpowersdesign](https://www.instagram.com/kvpowersdesign)



**Bio**

Kimberly Powers is a Theatre Set Designer and Visual Artist based in Fayetteville. She has created public art in Arkansas and Tulsa and has been commissioned as a fine artist and muralist. Her set designs have been seen in various venues across the country, including productions at: Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma (OK), Virginia Repertory Theatre (VA), Trike Theatre (AR), Southern Repertory Theatre (LA), Stages Rep (TX), Children's Musical Theater San Jose (CA), Orlando Repertory Theatre (FL), TheatreSquared (AR), National Theatre Conservatory (CO), Northern Stage (VT), Porthouse Theatre (OH), Eastman School of Music (NY), Seaside Music Theater (FL), Warehouse Theatre (SC) and the University of Arkansas (AR), among others. Kimberly has been a freelance scenic artist for theater since 2000. Notable clients include Hangar Theatre (NY), New York Music Theatre Festival (NY), Signature Theatre (VA), Lyric Theatre (OK) and TheatreSquared (AR). Additionally, she has worked professionally as a props master, event designer and coordinator, graphic designer, and exhibit designer and has taught in the Theatre Departments at the University of Arkansas, Coastal Carolina University, the University of Tulsa and Colby College. She received her Master of Fine Arts degree in Scenic Design from Kent State University in Ohio and is a proud member of United Scenic Artists Local 829.

**Artist Statement**

I am a storyteller. Stories are how we make connections: stories that we tell about ourselves or to ourselves; stories about what we believe our communities to be; and stories that we hear from others. I believe storytelling to be some of the connective tissue within relationships. When we really take the time to listen, we learn so much more about other people, ourselves and the natural world in which we occupy space. These notions are through lines within my work as a set designer for theater production and as a visual artist.

I actively center listening to cultivate stronger collaboration, connection and more authentic relationships – as well as better storytelling. In this piece, *Portrait of My Son*, I listened more closely to my 4-year-old child, who loved having what he called “home days” with me, every day. His resilience during a global pandemic was inspiring to an unemployed, scared theater artist and mother. I wanted to share his story of being able to find pure joy in the world and how his story continues to shape me as a parent.