

Doris Anne Holman

Painter
American

Born 1937 Chevy Chase, Maryland

Doris Anne Holman, a professional Maine artist and author (and mother of four children), has spent nearly 40 years balancing her art with a career as an elementary, middle school, and adult teacher.

Holman was raised in Chevy Chase Maryland. She went to Goucher College for the respected “ladies” career of teaching. Holman started her profession early with figure drawing lessons in charcoal with Richard Lahey from the Corcoran Art Gallery in Washington DC. Holman took a variety of art classes at the Maryland School of Art and Design in figure drawing and portraiture.

Holman’s passion for Maine landscapes started with her childhood summers in Wayne, Maine, where her family vacationed for generations. Holman was inspired by her Uncle Don, a watercolor artist, who would send watercolor cards to her family. Holman’s “Maine” perspective is one of context while learning from all that is around you. She’s studied continuously with various artists throughout her early career with various mediums including oils, acrylic, pastels and watercolor, but chose watercolor as the best means of expressing her inner self and love of all God’s creation. Not only a teacher of children and after school children’s art programs for much of her early career, Holman was the consummate student after her move to Wayne taking classes at schools such as the Portland School of Art (now Maine College of Art) and the University of Maine. Holman also studied under the direction of Valfred Thelin, Edgar A, Whitney and the noted West coast artists Milford Zorns and Robert Wood.

Holman earned a master’s degree in Reading from Loyola College in Baltimore and taught reading and primary grades for a large part of her 38 year professional teaching career. Additionally, she spent years teaching children’s after school art programs, adult education, and evening programs at the University of Maine. She also taught art at the Monmouth Middle School, The University of Maine, and has led workshops in Florida, Monhegan Island and coastal Maine, Bermuda and Canada. Holman has exhibited for the last thirty five years in galleries all along the coast, Monhegan Island, and The Talent Tree gallery in Augusta Maine. Her work is in permanent collections of The University of Maine Museum of Art and Colby College. Her work is also in several private collections including Pretti, Flaherty and Beliveau, Union Bank and Trust, and the Department of Environmental Protection.

Although Published in *Draw Magazine* twice, once for an article on value sketching another on flowers, her writing has come to fruition with her children’s books. Holman’s art work, teaching, and love of Maine finally came to the perfect syllogism with her remarkable, charming, and beautiful children’s books *Come with Me to the Sea*, *Eddie the Great Egret*, and *Harry the Great Blue Heron*. *Come with Me to the Sea* was published in 1998 as a way to introduce her grandchildren to the ocean. The illustrations were painted at Reid State Park and Popham Beach, Maine. A sequel, *Come with Me to the Pond* (2004) was inspired by three Maine lakes. The pages of these delightful books are filled with washy images that warm the heart while taking all ages of travelers on a journey that soothes the soul. Holman’s extensive experience in teaching (art and reading) has helped her write her children’s books. Her stories aren’t simply good children’s fables, but draw out imaginations with beautiful landscapes, luminosity, and humor. A Maine Arts Commission juried member, Holman and her daughter Anita Charles taught a two week literature/art class on Homer’s *The Odyssey* at the Long Creek Development Center, formerly known as the Maine Youth Center, South Portland.