

**Artist Statement: 26th Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners**

Artist Name: JAMES G. GOSTLIN

I have been in this art show for many years now and I still get excited every time the show comes around. It has given me an outlet for my emotions, my thoughts and feelings and all the things that when you are free you take for granted. I paint the things I love or that I would like to see or live. I guess it is my trademark after all these years. My art takes me away from this place and gives me dreams of a life I pray to see one day. Painting is apart of me like my arm or leg. I would be crippled emotionally and spiritually if it was ever taken from me. It is my expression of who I am and who I want to be.

Please edit your Artist Statement to the space provided.