



## CROMWELL CREATIVE DISTRICT

Town of Cromwell - Mayor's Office, Attn. Cromwell Creative District

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### Cromwell Creative District INTERVIEWS

#### Carin Bernard



**Carin Bernard** is the webmaster for Cromwell Creative District; among her other (seemingly contradictory) capabilities, she is also an artist and a numbers person, currently working in mortgage processing. Her degree in economics from the University of Connecticut is a basis for both her day job as well as her business career in the arts. These are data points - but who is she?

Currently, Carin lives with her boyfriend and her 5-year-old cat, Tony. Her entry into the arts came in 2017 through a therapeutic process and continues both for herself and those she teaches. Accepting commissions, she enjoys painting portraits, album covers and book covers. Although she started in watercolor, she has moved to acrylics and primarily works in sizes ranging from 16" x 20" to 24" x 36". Her personal work includes fantasy and superheroes; she enjoys pushing reality. As if all this work doesn't already keep her busy, she is writing a book about an orphan, Livie, the Carinnahnah, who navigates through life as a superhero. Books about Livie are intended to be a series from childhood through her 20's.

Carin loves working with children and pre-Covid, she offered "boot camp" in the park. Now, she is in the process of offering classes online. To learn more about this opportunity, visit her website at [www.carinistaart.com](http://www.carinistaart.com). As well as working with children, she offers paint nights at poetry bars in New London and Waterbury.

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As a proud black woman, Carin attributes her success to sharing "her story and journey" letting others know that "Yes, You Can." "Skin color is a distraction," she says. However, it is important to #respectTheBrand, a movement to encourage self-preservation and self-love.

Carin's courage has been hard won. Her mom died in 2010 leaving Carin in a state of despair until art helped her back to the bright life she is living today. Also adding support, her dad is now back in her life, for which she is grateful. Cromwell Creative District is better for having her leadership.

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