

SHEYDA ARDALAN, Ed.D

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ARTIST/ART EDUCATOR

Professional fine artist and art teacher/educator, trained in a wide range of artistic mediums and pedagogy, including computer art. I believe that art is a form of cognition that nurtures creative self-expression as students visualize ideas and solve problems through engagement with different materials. In art, students should be inspired to consider a range of possible solutions to a given topic and lessons should be centered around their experiences.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Doctorate of Education

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY, 2009

Master of Art Education

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY, 1994

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Illustration and Painting

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY, 1980

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Tehran International School, Tehran, Iran, 1976

Certification

Connecticut EIN 8284564041 (042) & New Mexico Licensure Number 249322; Visual Arts Pre K-12
State of Connecticut TEAM Mentor

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Catherine A. Miller Elementary School, Church Rock, NM

2022-Present

Art Teacher to students pre-K3 through fifth grade.

- Teaching diverse and developmentally appropriate lessons in a variety of studio mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpting, and printmaking to Navajo students.
- Assess and evaluate over 300 students.
- Creator of student displays throughout the school building.
- Created a digital art portfolio for each student.

Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT

2004-2022

Art Teacher/Computer Art Teacher/AP Art Teacher/TEAM Mentor/Cooperating Teacher

- Nurtured the creative development of each individual student by exposing them to a variety of age-appropriate topics and materials such as drawing, painting, sculpture, clay, mixed media, art history and aesthetics, printmaking, digital photography, animation, and advance, intermediate, and beginner computer arts (Adobe Photoshop CS2, Illustrator, Flash) while encouraging them to grow and progress at their own pace as they learn.
- Motivated students to think creatively as they learned concepts, techniques, and disciplines in the art world, especially the use of technology in the arts. Encouraged students to think divergently as they visualized their ideas through materials.
- Organized field trips for students to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Guggenheim Museum, the Frick Collection, the Museum of Modern Art, the National Museum of American Indian, the Whitney Museum of American Art and Sony Wonder Technology Lab to enhance students' aesthetics response and understanding of the arts.
- Provided opportunities to showcase students' visual creative expression by submitting their work to the Scholastic Art Awards receiving gold, silver, and honorable mention awards in drawing, painting, computer art, and animation. Showcased student work throughout the school, the media center gallery, Norwalk Community College, Rye Art Center, Old Greenwich Art Society, and the Congressional Show.
- Developed and implemented an intermediate computer art level into the high school art curriculum, expanded the program from six to eight classes, and initiated the use of Wacom tablets and grip pens.

- Wrote the course proposal, implemented, and taught AP Studio Art and AP Computer Art courses.
- Wrote the course proposal for AP Art History which was approved and implemented.
- Organized professional development seminars for the district art department teachers. Activities included visits to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museum, printmaking workshops at Silvermine Guild Art Center, papermaking workshops, lesson planning workshops, cultural diversity workshops, artistic development workshops, and aesthetic in education workshops.
- Conducted annual Adobe Photoshop workshops for K-12 teachers as part of their professional development; participated in the Curriculum Review Committee creating rubrics and assessment plans for the district art curriculum and reworked the curriculum. Partook in the Cultural Diversity Week, presenting workshops to students and teachers on the history and culture of Iran and Art of the Middle East.
- Exchanged student artwork with students in Palestine.
- TEAM mentor to beginner teachers, met with them weekly and covered pedagogy and classroom management. Reviewed any issues that needed to be improved upon.
- Cooperating teacher to graduate students in the field of Art Education. Supported student teachers in an active, real life class environment. Helped them work on classroom management, writing lessons and the implementation of them.

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

1999-2015

Adjunct Professor of Art & Art Education, Graduate Department of Art & Art Education

- Taught Field Observations in Art Education every semester, a required course for certification in where graduate students expand their understanding of relationships between theory and practice of art education through observations in public schools, analyzing work in the field, presenting, and group discussions.
- Taught Exploring Cultural Diversity, a required course for certification in which graduate students explore a range of social, political, artistic, and educational issues that relate to cultural diversity, respond to cultural manifestations from a variety of groups and individuals, and apply their understandings about cultural diversity to the creation of art curriculum.
- Coordinated the InSTEP program, a Master of Arts degree designed to offer practicing art teachers advanced academic experiences relating to professional needs and expectations in art and art education, combining work in pedagogy and instruction, research, studio, and contemporary studies

New Canaan Public Schools, New Canaan, CT

1997-2004

Art Teacher

Saxe Middle School
2000-2004

1997-1998 &

New Canaan High School

1998-2000

East Elementary School & South Elementary School

1997-1998

- Created and taught unique and diverse lessons to students in kindergarten through 8th grade in various art mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, art history and aesthetics, collage, and computer art.
- Exchanged student artwork with students in Cyprus.
- Organized and headed field trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Sony Wonder Technology Lab, Museum of Modern Art, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, the Neuberger Museum of Art, and New York City's SoHo art district to enrich students' understanding of the visual language.
- Worked on the district K-12 art curriculum, linking it with both the National and the Connecticut visual arts standards, arranged professional development workshops at the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art for the district teachers.
- Organized and headed international educational trips for students to Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and Spain's Andalucia province. Participated in cultural exchange programs with three middle schools in South Africa and two middle schools in Madagascar; hosted the principals and teachers at my house and implemented programs between students from the two countries and students from Saxe.
- Showcased student art in district wide art exhibitions and in the Scholastic Art Awards with recipients of gold, silver, and honorable mention awards in drawing and painting.

East Shore Middle School, Milford, CT**1995-1997**

Art Teacher

- Taught students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade age-appropriate lessons in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, collage, bookmaking, papermaking, clay, and the pottery wheel to develop their artistic capabilities. Taught three classes of History of Medieval Europe through art to 6th graders; facilitated trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Cloisters, and the Smithsonian Museum of American Indian, NYC.

Chapman Elementary School, Cheshire, CT**1994-1995**

Art Teacher

- Taught grades K-6 diverse and developmentally appropriate lessons in a variety of studio mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpting, and printmaking. Assessed and evaluated approximately 350 students. Creator of student displays throughout the district and town of Cheshire.

Graphic Artist and Illustrator**1980-1992**

- Production Designer, Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, New York, NY.
 - Illustrator, Institute for Urban and Minority Education, New York, NY.
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PRESENTATIONS

- *What is it Like Being a Muslim Woman in the USA?* Greenwich High School Diversity Week, 2018
 - *Islam and America*, Greenwich High School Diversity Week, 2017
 - *Technology and Art*, National Art Education Association Convention, New Orleans, LA, 2015
 - *Creative Thinking through Islamic Art*, National Art Education Association Convention, New Orleans, LA, 2015
 - *Islam through its Art*, National Art Education Association Convention, New York, NY, 2012
 - *Reading Development into your Teaching*, National Art Education Association Convention, New York, NY 2007
 - *Mentorship and Apprenticeship in the Traditional Arts of Iran*, National Art Education Association Convention, Boston, MA, 2005
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PUBLICATIONS AND DISSERTATIONS

- *Art and Technology: Innovative K-12 Digital Lessons*, co-authored with Cheryl Adler Iozzo, Teachers College Press, 2021
 - *Apprenticeship in the Arts and Crafts of Iran: The Mentorship Practices of Four Masters*, Dissertation Publication, Teachers College, Columbia University, 2009
 - *Museum of Modern Art/Teachers College Roundtable, Interdisciplinary Lessons for High School, American Identity, Cultural Icons; Places and Objects; Social concerns; Life Stories*, Teachers College, 2007
 - *The Practices of Investigation: Mokarrameh Ghanbari and Darikandeh Village of Art*, Mazandaran, Iran, Teachers College, Jan 2007
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ART EXHIBITS

Solo Exhibits

- *Landscapes*, Prince Street Gallery, NYC, NY, June-July 2017
- *Landscapes*, Second Congregational Church, Greenwich, CT, 2004
- *Master's Thesis*, Macy Gallery, Teachers College, Columbia University, NYC, NY, 1996
- *Pastels*, Ridgefield Library Gallery, Ridgefield, CT 1991

Group Exhibits

- *Celebrating Bridges: Art and Art Education Program Alumni Exhibition*, Macy Gallery, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY. February 22 – March 19, 2021
- *Coming home: Art and Art Education Program Alumni Exhibition*, Macy Gallery, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY, Mar 4-28, 2019
- *Small Works Show*, Pleiades Gallery, NYC, NY, Feb-Mar 2018
- *Instructor's Exhibit*, Macy Gallery, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY, 2014

- *Teacher's Exhibit*, GHS Library Gallery, Greenwich, CT, 2005
 - *Teacher's Exhibit*, New Canaan Library Gallery, New Canaan, CT, 2000
 - *Local Artists*, Scargo Gallery, Dennis, MA, 1997
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VOLUNTEER WORK

I conduct free art workshops in villages in Iran each summer, working with participants ranging in age from 3 to 80 years, with all supplies provided. I have taught a free art class to teenage girls in a juvenile detention center in Tehran, Iran, providing all the art supplies.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: Fluent in English and Persian, good knowledge of Spanish, and knowledge of Turkish.
Professional Affiliation: Member of National Art Education Association, New Mexico Art Education Association, Connecticut Art Education Association, Connecticut Education Association, National Indian Education Association, and International Society for Education through Art.