

## **SHEYDA ARDALAN, Ed.D**

783 North Salem Road, Ridgefield, CT. 06877

• Email: sheydaardalan@gmail.com • Website: sheydaardalan.com

---

### **ARTIST/ART EDUCATOR**

Professional fine artist and art teacher/educator, trained in a wide range of artistic mediums and pedagogy, including computer art and animation. Landscape artist, work with mostly oil on canvas using bold colors. 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, and that in art, students should be inspired to consider a range of possible solutions to a given topic.

---

### **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**

States of Connecticut, New York, and New Mexico; Visual Arts K-12 (042)

State of Connecticut TEAM Mentor

---

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **Greenwich High School, Greenwich, CT**

**2004-Present**

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

- Nurture 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.
- Motivate students to think creatively as they learn concepts, techniques, and disciplines in the art world, especially the use of technology in the arts. Encourage students to think divergently as they visualize their ideas through materials.
- Organize 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, and Sony Wonder Technology Lab to enhance students' aesthetics response and understanding of the arts.
- Provide opportunities to showcase students' visual creative expression by submitting their work to the Scholastic Art Awards where they have received gold, silver, and honorable mention awards in drawing, painting, computer art, and animation. Showcase 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.
- Developed, implemented, and teach AP Studio Art and Computer Art course.
- Organize professional development seminars for the district art department teachers. Activities include 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.
- Conduct annual Adobe Photoshop workshops for k-12 teachers as part of their professional development; participate in the Curriculum Review Committee creating rubrics and assessment plans for the district art curriculum and reworking the curriculum into UbD style. Partake in the school's Cultural Diversity Week by

presenting workshops to students and teachers on the history and culture of Iran and on Art of the Middle East.

- TEAM mentor to beginner teacher. Meet weekly and go over pedagogy and classroom management. Review any issues that need to be improved upon.
- Cooperating teacher to graduate students in the field of Art Education. Support student teachers in an active, real life class environment. Work on lessons and 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, a required course for certification in which graduate students expand their understanding of the relationship between the theory and practice of art education through observations in public schools, analyzing work in the field, presentations, 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**

*Saxe Middle School*

*1997-1998 & 2000-2004*

*New Canaan High School*

*1998-2000*

*East Elementary School & South Elementary School*

*1997-1998*

Art Teacher

- Created and taught unique and diverse lesson plans to students in kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade in various art mediums such as drawing, painting, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, art history and aesthetics, collage, and computer art.
- 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 and 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 Andalusia province. Participated in cultural exchange programs with three middle schools in South Africa and two middle schools in Madagascar; hosted the principals and teachers in 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 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> graders; facilitated trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cloisters.

**Chapman Elementary School, Cheshire, CT**

**1994-1995**

Art Teacher

- Taught students 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.

**Freelance Graphic Artist and Illustrator**

**1980-1992**

Production Designer, Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, NY, NY; Illustrator, Institute for Urban and Minority Education, NY, NY; Graphic Artist, Picture Magic, Ridgefield, CT; Illustrator, Action Arts Camp, NY, NY and Ridgefield Community Kindergarten, Ridgefield, CT.

**Professional Fine Artist**

**1980-Present**

Mediums: Oil Paints, Watercolors, Color Pencils, Charcoal, Pastels, Printmaking, Digital Art

---

**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, NYC, NY, 1996

*Pastels*, Ridgefield Library Gallery, Ridgefield, CT 1991

Group Exhibits

*Instructor's Exhibit*, Macy Gallery, NYC, 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

---

**VOLUNTEER WORK**

Conduct free art workshops in villages in Iran each summer, providing all the art supplies and working with participants ranging in age from 3 years to 80 years. Teach free art classes for teenage girls in a juvenile detention center in Tehran, Iran. Advocate of animals; volunteer at animal shelters in Iran every summer.

---

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Languages: Fluent in English and Persian, good knowledge of Spanish, and knowledge of Turkish.

Professional Affiliation: Member of National Art Education Association, Connecticut Art Education Association, Connecticut Education Association, and International Society for Education through Art.