

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

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### **ART EDUCATOR/ARTIST**

Art Teacher/Educator, Adjunct Professor of Art & Art Education, Beginner Teacher Mentor, Cooperating Teacher to Student Teachers, Professional Fine Artist. Trained in a wide range of artistic mediums and pedagogy, including computer art and animation. 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.

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### **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, 2022

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### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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

**2004-Present**

Art Teacher/Computer Art Teacher/Advanced Placement 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 a variety of materials such as paint, pencil, clay, mixed media, digital media, found objects.
- Classes taught include drawing, painting, sculpture, digital media, printmaking, art history and aesthetics, animation, and advance, intermediate, and beginner computer arts (Adobe Photoshop CS6, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Animate), Advanced Placement Studio Art and Advanced Placement Computer Art.
- 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 while encouraging them to grow and progress at their own pace as they learn.
- 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, SOHO district galleries, Chelsea district galleries, the High Line, and Sony Wonder Technology Lab in New York City to enhance students' aesthetics response and understanding of the arts.
- Annual visit with students to Teachers College/Columbia University; students talk to graduate art education students about their work, show their art and open for Q&A.
- Worked in partnership with a high school in Palestine through Creative Connections and students in Palestine had a live video conference with my students in Connecticut. Students exchanged art which was shipped over.
- Provide opportunities to showcase student work by submitting their art to the Scholastic Art Awards where they have received gold, silver, and honorable mention awards in drawing, painting, computer art, and animation. Exhibit student work throughout the school district, the Media Center Gallery, Katonah Museum of Art, Norwalk Community College, Rye Art Center, Old Greenwich Art Society, Macy Gallery/Columbia University, Greenwich Arts Council and the CT Congressional Show.
- Developed, wrote the course proposal, and implemented Intermediate and Advanced Computer Art levels into the high school art curriculum, expanded the program from six to eight classes, and initiated the use of Wacom tablets.

- Developed, wrote the course proposal, and implemented Advanced Placement Studio Art, Advanced Placement Computer Art, and Advanced Placement Art History courses into the high school art curriculum.
- Organize professional development seminars for the district art department teacher., Activities include visits to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museum, printmaking workshops at Silvermine Guild Art Center, and the following workshops in partnership with Teachers College, Columbia University: papermaking, lesson planning, cultural diversity, artistic development, processes and structures, and aesthetic in education.
- Conducted 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 rewriting the curriculum to correspond with current practices in art education. Partake in the school's Cultural Diversity Week as a presenter on the following topics: history and culture of Iran, Islam, and art of the Middle East.
- TEAM mentor to beginner teacher. Meet weekly and examine pedagogical practices and classroom management. Review any issues that need to be improved upon.
- TEAM reader for the State of Connecticut. Read and evaluate papers written by beginner teachers in CT.
- Cooperating teacher to graduate students in the field of Art Education from Teachers College/Columbia University, College of New Rochelle, and Southern Connecticut State University. Support student teachers in an active, real life class environment. Work on lessons and their implementation.

**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 one credit course for certification in which graduate students expand their understanding of the relationships 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 three credit 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 lessons to students in kindergarten through eighth 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.
- 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; students received gold, silver, and honorable mention awards in drawing and painting.
- Participated in an International Art Exchange program through Creative Connections where fifth grade students from East Elementary School exchanged art with fifth grade students from Cyprus.

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

Art Teacher

- Taught sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students age appropriate lessons in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, collage, bookmaking, papermaking, clay, and the
- Placed three pottery wheels in the art classroom so students could take turns throwing at the wheel and expand their artistic capabilities.
- Taught three classes of History Through Art to sixth graders. Students learned the history of Medieval Europe by looking at art of medieval times, by making art, and by visiting the Medieval Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Cloisters in New York City.
- Created and implemented interdisciplinary art and science lessons with sixth grade teachers.

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

Art Teacher

- Taught students in grades K-6 diverse 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.
- Created and implemented interdisciplinary units with third and fifth grade teachers.

**Freelance Graphic Artist and Illustrator****1980-1992**

Production Designer, Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, NY, NY

Illustrator and Instructor, Institute for Urban and Minority Education, Brooklyn, NY

Graphic Artist, Picture Magic, Ridgefield, CT

Illustrator and Instructor, Action Arts Camp, NY, NY Ridgefield Community Kindergarten, Ridgefield, CT.

**Professional Fine Artist****1980-Present**

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

**Website**

sheydaardalan.com

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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 IN PROGRESS AND DISSERTATIONS***Art and Technology: Artistic Thinking Through New Media*, working with publisher, Anticipated date of publication: 2020*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, Columbia University, 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, NYC, NY, 1996  
*Pastels*, Ridgefield Library Gallery, Ridgefield, CT 1991

### Group Exhibits

*Coming Home: Art and Art Education Alumni Program Exhibition*, Macy Gallery, NYC, March 2019  
*Small Works Show*, Pleiades Gallery, NYC, NY, Feb-Mar 2018  
*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

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## 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.

Taught free art classes for teenage girls in a juvenile detention center in Tehran, Iran.

Volunteer at soup kitchens in Norwalk, CT.

Advocate of animals; volunteer at animal shelters in Iran every summer.

Driver for The Liberty Train, driving high kill shelter dogs and cats to no kill shelters and foster homes.

Passenger transporter, flying stray and abused dogs and cats from Iran to shelters, sanctuaries, and foster homes in the USA.

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## 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.

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