

Sculptor / Public Artist / Executive Director / Community Builder

HOWIE SNEIDER (he, him)

Providence, RI

EXPERIENCE

Fine Artist and Public-Art Designer/Fabricator 2000 – Present

Contractor / Public Artist and Project Manager 2004 – 2013

Board Member, Community Built Association 2018 – Present

www.communitybuilt.org

The Steel Yard Providence, RI

www.thesteelyard.org

Executive Director 2013 - 2026

Founding Public Project Director, 2006 to 2013

Resident Artist and Teaching Artist, 2004 - 2006

The Steel Yard is an industrial crafts center in Providence, RI, with studios for blacksmithing, welding, ceramics, jewelry and foundry arts. There is a public-art workshop, artists in residence and numerous creative small business tenants.

As the Director of the Steel Yard for 13-years, I had the opportunity to teach community art courses, manage over 200 public-art installations across New England, preserve a historic property, lead multiple strategic plans and capital campaigns, steward incredible philanthropic support, and work alongside hundreds of artists, thousands of students, teachers, professional craftspeople and inspiring colleagues from across the arts and business community.

EDUCATION

Rhode Island School of Design

B.F.A. Sculpture, 2002

Hogeschool voor de Kunsten Utrecht, the Netherlands

Exchange semester: Concentration in Sculpture Fall 2000

Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Business's Continuing Education

Providence, RI. 2020-21

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS, HONORS AND RESIDENCIES

2025

** Champion of Accessibility Award, RAMP, Providence Mayor Brett Smiley, Providence RI

- Community Engagement Consultation for Michael Szabo Studios, San Francisco, CA
- Historic Building Development Consultation, Cross Street Partners, Baltimore, MD
- “the Celebrity Club” Historic Marker re-dedication and community design and fabrication, Community Built Association for the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, Providence, RI
- Great Feature Article about the Steel Yard in East Bay News.
<https://www.eastbayri.com/stories/art-gives-pulse-to-the-city,127730#top-carousel>
- “Through the Founder, Saint John Baptist de la Salle” La Salle Academy 100th Anniversary Commemorative Sculpture, with Fernando Pezzino, Providence, RI

2024

** Ambassador Award Winner, Providence Warwick Visitors and Convention Bureau, RI, Special recognition from Governor Dan McKee and Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

2023

- 2023/2024 Artist in Resident, NBNERR, Prudence Island, RI
- Selected for the La Salle Academy 150th anniversary Commemorative Sculpture in Partnership with Fernando Pezzino. Providence, RI

2022

- ** Community Built Association 2024 National Conference co-host, Providence, RI**
- Co-host of the 4th Annual “Accessibility is Beautiful” at The Steel Yard
- “Howie Schneider’s Narragansett Bay Historic Structures Photo Collection” included in the US Naval War College Archive and Library, Newport RI
- Publication of “Arts and Wealth Building Cohort” by LISC Featuring the work of the Steel Yard https://www.thesteelyard.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/022824_creative_placemaking_cohort_report_february_2024.pdf

2021

- ** Presidential Silver Volunteer Service Award - President Joseph R. Biden, Americorps, Points of Light Foundation, and Real Access Motivate Progress**
- Presenter at Community Built Association Conference, Kaneko Center, Omaha, NE
- Brown University Public Humanities Fellow and Mentor, Brown University, Providence, RI
- Host Committee for Teatro ECAS 25th Anniversary Celebration, Providence, RI

2020

- Co-host the First Annual “Accessibility Is Beautiful” Event at the Steel Yard with R.A.M.P
- Boot Camp Project Co-leader, Community Built Association Conference, San Gregorio, CA

2019

- Guest Teaching Metal Artist, Chariho Regional School District, Richmond, RI
- Presenter w/Juxtaposition Arts, LISC Financial Stability Conference, San Diego, CA

2018

- Keynote Speaker, RI Scholastic Student Art Awards, Rhode Island Art Educators Association
- Presenter, Community Built Association Biennial Conference, Charleston, SC
- Residency 34 Participant, Robert Rauschenberg Foundation, Captiva, Florida

2017

- Presenter, Alliance of Artist Communities conference, Denver, CO
- Stone Quarry Hill Art Park Artist in Residence, Cazenovia NY

2016

- RI Delegate, Nation of Makers Meeting, the White House, Washington DC
- Guest Speaker, Providence College MBA Course on Social Enterprise, Providence, RI
- Congressman Jim Langevin’s Arts Advisory Committee
- National Endowment of the Arts : Future of Art Convening : *NEFA Delegate*, Washington DC

2015

- Rhode Island Foundation 2015-16 RI Fellows Leadership Conference
- The Banff Center, Leading By Design Program Participant
- Featured Presenter, Artscape webinar, “Activating the Creative Economy” with Pru Robey

2014

- Citizen Citation from Mayor Angel Tavares for Participation in Public Transitt-art

2013

- Stone Quarry Hill Art Park Artist in residence, Cazenovia NY
- Socrates Sculpture Park Artist in Residence, Long Island City, New York, NY

2012

- NEFA Creative Communities Exchange – Co-Presenter “Social Enterprise and Workforce Development”

2010-13

- Board Treasurer, Groundwork Providence.

2009

- Panelist for Rhode Island State Council of the Arts Fellowship in three-dimensional art

- 2007** – Rhode Island Arts and Business Council *Encore Award* Winner, Individual Achievement in the Visual Arts
- 2002** – Convergence Public Arts Festival, Installation of ‘Military Industrial landscape’ in India Point Park, Providence RI

SELECTED PUBLIC-ART INSTALLATIONS from over 200 contracted functional public-art projects that I co-fabricated and managed through the Steel Yard’s [Public Projects Department](#).

- 2014** – RIPTA R-Line – Industrial Benches, Permanent Public-Installation, Providence RI
 - RIPTA R-Line - Bus Shelters, Fabrication and installation of 5 bus shelters, Providence, RI
- 2012** – Kennedy Plaza Art-Fence - In partnership with the City of Providence and the National Endowment for the Arts, The Steel Yard organized and collaborated with a team of artists to design, fabricate and install a 350 ft. sculptural fence around the BOA skating center in Providence’s Kennedy Plaza. Community surveys informed design decisions and incorporated areas for future temporary art installations.
 - Roger Williams National Memorial Speakers’ Corner - The National Park Foundation teamed up with the Steel Yard to create and install a public pedestal that will encourage free speech while promoting the contributions of Roger Williams to our national philosophy.
- 2011** – City of Newport Bike Racks, 13 sculptural bike racks from salvaged anchor chain installed throughout historic downtown Newport.
 - East Greenwich Library Memorial Bike Rack, A unique, hand forged memorial bike rack in front of the historic library building.
 - Groundwork Garden Site Improvements, 100 feet of custom steel fencing with two marvelous towering sculptural bollards created by Rhode Island 15 – 18 year-olds in the 2011 Camp Metalhead.
- 2010** – Providence Public Housing Trash Cans, 77 trash receptacles for state subsidized housing projects in Providence, RI, custom-designed and built by trainees and artists.
 - Woonsocket Ribbon Racks, Custom sculptural bike racks designed and installed in Woonsocket, Painted by high school students at Riverzedge Arts.
 - Olneyville and Smith Hill fences, 100 feet of custom ornamental fencing with hand crafted flowers for subsidized housing in two historic Providence neighborhoods.
 - Bristol Rhode Island Trash Cans, 20 traditionally crafted and hand-forged steel frames with oak whiskey barrel liners. Installed throughout Bristol, RI.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS and FEATURE ARTICLES

- Steel Yard Forges an Artful Childcare Program - Motif Magazine - 2025
<https://motifri.com/steelyard-forges-an-artful-childcare-program-free-for-instructors-and-students-amid-course-expansion/>
- Great Feature Article about the Steel Yard in East Bay News. (I just like it!)
 - <https://www.eastbayri.com/stories/art-gives-pulse-to-the-city.127730#top-carousel>
- “Arts and Wealth Building Cohort” Report by LISC Featuring the work of the Steel Yard
https://www.thesteelyard.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/022824_creative_placemaking_cohort_report_february_2024.pdf
- Key Stakeholder to the City of Providence 2020 Cultural Plan
https://artculturetourism.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ACT_Plan2031.pdf