

SARAH GRANA

ARTIST - WRITER



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PROFILE

I am a Fine Artist with experience working in Higher Education as a Counselor and Teacher's Assistant. A creative who loves people and making the world a better place with art; I am an imaginative problem-solver with a passionate drive to foster creativity through art, outreach and education.

EDUCATION

Columbia College, Chicago
Bachelor of Fine Arts
with a Minor in Art History
Cumulative GPA: 3.84/4.0

EXPERIENCES

2024-
Present
Plainfield

Freelance Artist

Plainfield Arts Community Theatre, Playnfield Players, Plainfield Children's Theatre

- Designing logos, advertisement flyers, t-Shirt designs, Playbill flyers
- Practicing freelance artist with specialties in painting, mixed media, photography, illustration and design

2017-
2024
Chicago

Creative Assistant, Copy-Writer, Freelance Artist, Client Relations

Blissful Births and Babies & Maggie G Creative -

- Graphic design for business, marketing and social media management.
- Conducting research and following trends related to pregnancy, postpartum care and birth equity. Creating coursework for educational online classes.
- Editing photos and handling all print orders, packaging and shipping for client needs.
- Client Concierge, fielding inquiries about Birth Doula practice.
- Working towards state legislation for improving maternal health and reducing disparities.

2007-
2017
Chicago

Admissions Counselor,

American Academy of Art, Chicago-

- Interviewing student applicants for the Bachelor Degree programs.
- Reviewing artist's portfolios and discussing their mediums.
- Leading tours of the college and showcasing the studios and galleries.
- Delivering Admissions Presentations to large groups, outlining the degree programs, history of the college and benefits of careers in art.
- Organizing gallery openings and social events for new students.
- Coordinating team building events for incoming freshmen.
- Attending regular meetings with Admissions Senior Director.
- Advising students through the admissions process.
- Maintaining a strong interpersonal relationship with Faculty, Staff, professional alumni and current students of the College.
- Meeting and exceeding enrollment goals for the College.

2006-
2007
Orland
Park

Professional Studio Photographer-Editor

Sales Associate

Portrait Innovations

- Experience and mastery of various hybrid photography software/editing programs.
- Enthusiastic sales skills and responsible for keeping a budget goal within the studio.
- Strong communication and organization skills working with families and children.

2004-
2006
Chicago

Teacher's Assistant- Work Study Program

Fine Art Department

Columbia College, Chicago

- Studio upkeep, distribution of supplies, tools and supplemental reading material to students.
- Assisting students on proper usage and techniques of various art tools and mediums.
- Experience in storing and hanging artwork in a gallery space.

GALLERY SHOWS

- Insect Asylum- "Cicada Parade-A"-2024
- Mind's Eye Gallery- Fundraiser for Ukraine Group Exhibition - "Extraordinary Times of Sorrow and Hope"-2022
- Member of Secret Tricks- All Women Artists Collective-2021
- Atomic Sketch Guest Artist Panel- 2017
- American Academy of Art Staff/Faculty Shows 2013, 2014, 2015
- Tinley Park Vogt Art Center- 2009-2011
- Columbia College Graduation Exhibition- 2006
- Columbia College Chicago Honors Exhibition- 2005
- Columbia College Sketchy Show- 2005
- Columbia Chicago May Fest Exhibition- 2003

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Level II Volunteer for Chicago Public Schools

- Chaperone for classroom support and Field Trips at Holden Elementary.
- Organize, plan and work Field Day for Holden School.
- Planning committee for Cultural Events.
- Committed toward all students having access to a high quality education.

Secretary for the Parent Advisory Council-

Member of the Bilingual Advisory Committee

Holden Elementary School- CPS

- Advise the Principal on use of Title I parent and family engagement funds.
- Take written minutes and draft all official correspondences of the PAC.
- Promote all PAC events and give public notice of meetings. Act as community outreach coordinator.
- Design all promotional material and flyers for PAC/BAC both digital and print.
- Advocate for equity of resources for all students and help families and community partners to keep connected to the school. Promote and present Literacy Programs.
- Attend training sessions with ESSA on best uses of Title I funds.
- Design logos for the Bilingual Committee and Cultural Events.

Girl Scouts of America

2023-Present

- Guiding girls to find their love of Science, Art, Engineering and Environmentalism while bettering their communities

References available upon request.