

Megan Kathol Bersett

megankatholbersett.com

Education

- 2010-13 Master of Fine Arts degree, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 1996-01 Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, Truman State University, Kirksville, MO (cum laude)
- 2006-10 Santa Fe Community College (Alternative Teaching Licensure classes)
- 2003-04 Intercultura, Heredia, Costa Rica (Spanish language classes, *High Advanced Level*)
- 2000 Institute for American Universities/Marchutz School of Art, Aix-en-Provence, France

Selected Solo and Two Person Exhibitions

- 2019 *Traverse*, with Tyler Lotz, McLean County Arts Center, Bloomington, IL
between, Illinois Central College, Peoria, IL
- 2018 *sift/shift*, Ramp-Arts Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- 2016 *SOLID*, Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- 2015 *tug*, McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL
- 2013 *Unsettled*, MFA Graduate Thesis Exhibition, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL (catalog)
Student Annual Exhibition, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
'Solo show' inside exhibition as part of Marshall Dulaney Pitcher Award
- 2012 *Conglomerates*, Rachel Cooper Gallery, Illinois State University, Normal, IL (catalog)
- 2010 *Megan Kathol Bersett*, Hand Artes Gallery, Truchas, NM
- 2008 *Megan Kathol Bersett*, Rio Grande Sun, Espanola, NM
- 2005 *Megan Kathol*, Rio Grande Sun, Espanola, NM

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2019 *Abstraction*, Joe McCauley Gallery, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
Alumni Invitational, Prairie Center of the Arts, Peoria, IL
TWOgether, Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- 2018 *Prairie Center of the Arts Alumni Invitational*, Warehouse Gallery One, Peoria, IL
From the Studios, Peninsula School of Art, Fish Creek, WI
Faculty Biennial, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
Annual Faculty Show, Joe McCauley Gallery, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
- 2017 *Community College Art Faculty Invitational*, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

- Faculty Show*, Merwin & Wakeley Galleries, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL
- MCAC Board Members & Staff Art Exhibition*, McLean County Arts Center, Bloomington, IL
- Annual Faculty Show, Joe McCauley Gallery, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
- 2016 *Art for a Change*, Bloomington-Normal Arts Collective, 110 Center for Visual Arts, Normal, IL
- Faculty Biennial*, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Annual Faculty Show, Joe McCauley Gallery, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
- 2015 *Alumni Spectacular*, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Annual Faculty Show, Joe McCauley Gallery, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
- 2014 *Everyday Abstraction: Contemporary Painting*, Anderson Gallery, Drake University, Des Moines, IA (catalog)
- Spookeh*, Jan Brandt Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- Faculty Biennial*, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Annual Faculty Show*, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
- 2013 *Prime*, Heavy Brow Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- MFA Painters*, Ebersmoore Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Emerging Illinois Artists*, McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, IL
- Blurring the Lines*, Swell Gallery, West Dundee, IL
- MFA Biennial*, University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2012 *In Your Neighborhood*, McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, IL
- The Eye that Sees the Possible*, Transpace Gallery, Normal, IL
- Hurricane Sandy Artist Benefit Show*, University Galleries, Normal, IL
- 2011 *Four More Than Two*, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
- MFA Biennial*, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Transitional Spaces*, Subspace Gallery, Bloomington, IL
- 2010 *Inside Eight*, Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, NM
- 2009 *Instructor Exhibit*, Fine Arts for Children and Teens, Giacobbe-Fritz Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM
- White History Week: Ending Racism in New Mexico*, One Kind Artplace, Albuquerque, NM
- 2008 *Instructor Exhibit*, Fine Arts for Children and Teens, Winterowd Fine Art, Santa Fe, NM
- 2004 *Megan Kathol and Herbert Ouche*, Escazu Cultural House, San Jose, Costa Rica
- 2002 *Invitational*, Period Gallery, Omaha, NE
- 2001 *Abstraction IV*, Period Gallery, Omaha, NE

Awards/Grants/Residencies

- 2018 Faculty Honoree, Project Rise, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
student-nominated award: "Student Support Services program, dedicated to increasing retention and graduation rates of low income, first generation students, and students with disabilities"
<https://www.heartland.edu/projectRISE/>
- 2017 Residency, Prairie Center of the Arts, Peoria, IL
- 2013 Marshall Dulaney Pitcher Award (Exceptional Merit), Illinois State University, Normal, IL
academic and monetary award and solo exhibit within the Student Annual Exhibition
- 2013 Grant, Illinois State University Friends of the Arts, Normal, IL
monetary award to fund Master of Fine Arts Thesis Show, *Unsettled*, and catalog
- 2010-13 Graduate Assistantship and Full Tuition Waiver, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2012 Grant, Illinois State University Friends of the Arts, Normal, IL
monetary award for a *plein air* drawing project in southeastern Utah, culminating in an exhibition of the works titled *Conglomerates*, and a catalog
- 2011 Robert Small Art History Writing Award, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
academic and monetary award for my paper titled *Examining Painting and Perception Through the Installation Art of Sarah Sze*
- 2002 Honorable Mention, Period Gallery, Omaha, NE
- 2001 Award of Excellence and Juror's Choice Award, Period Gallery, Omaha, NE
artistic and monetary award
- 2001 Outstanding BFA Studio Award, Truman State University, Kirksville, MO

Professional/Teaching Experience

- 2019- Interim Director of Operations, Illinois Art Station, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
Instructor, Illinois Art Station, Youth Art Summer Camp, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- 2014- Adjunct Professor, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
Drawing I (ART 104) Fall 2014, Spring/Fall 2015, 2016, 2017, Spring 2018, 2019
Understanding Art (ART 150) Fall 2016, 2018
Painting I (ART 106) Spring 2014
Painting II (ART 206) Spring 2014
- 2017-18 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL
Painting I (ART 130) Fall 2017, Spring 2018
Painting II (ART 230) Spring 2018 (stacked course)
Drawing I (ART 113) Spring 2018

- Drawing II (ART 213) Spring 2018 (stacked course)
- 2013- Instructional Assistant Professor, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Arts & Society: Abstract Painting (ART 176) Spring/Fall 2015, 2016, 2017
 - Life Drawing I (ART 213) Fall 2014
 - Drawing Fundamentals (ART 104) Fall 2013, Spring 2014
 - Color Theory (ART 363) Fall 2013
- 2013-14 Adjunct Professor, Lincoln College-Normal, Normal, IL
- Art Appreciation (ART 111) Fall 2013, Fall 2014
 - Art Appreciation (ART 111) Accelerated Bridge to Education Hybrid Program, Spring 2014
 - Understanding the Arts (Art Theory) (ART 301) Spring 2014
- 2010-13 Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
- Teaching Assistant, Painting I (ART 261), Spring 2013
(assisted Associate Professor Michael Wille in all daily activities of the course)
 - Lab instructor, Visual Thinking: 2-D Fundamentals (ART 103), Fall 2010-Spring 2013
 - Instructor of Record, Life Drawing I (ART 213), Fall 2012
 - Instructor of Record, Visual Thinking: Drawing Fundamentals (ART 104), Spring 2012
 - Life Model Coordinator, Fall 2010-Spring 2011
- 2005-10 Senior Instructor, Fine Art for Children & Teens, Santa Fe, NM
- FACT was one of twelve recipients of the 2010 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards (*Coming Up Taller Award*) presented by Michelle Obama on behalf of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (https://nasaa-arts.org/nasaa_research/national-arts-humanities-youth-program-awardees/). I was among 6-10 teachers on staff and taught teenage workshops, in-school/afterschool programs (ArtREACH and ArtCLUB), summer public library and intensive ArtBarn workshops, and professional workshops for public school teachers. I also taught art classes in Spanish for *Adelante*, a homeless families program funded through Santa Fe public schools. Classes consisted of brainstorming, art historical references and visual aides, demonstrations, hands-on art-making, critiques, and exhibitions. On the Curriculum Task Force I designed art curricula/lessons/activities/motivations based on New Mexico state education grade level standards. On Space Task Force I developed documents to assess needs for current and future space/location. I also interfaced regularly with teachers, parents, and administration.
- 2010 Instructor, Art workshops, Poeh Center, Pojoaque Pueblo, Pojoaque, NM
I initiated, planned and conducted five workshops for children ages two to thirteen.
- 2006 Instructor, Art workshops, Pojoaque Public Library, Pojoaque, NM
I initiated, planned and conducted five workshops for children ages two to thirteen.
- 2004 Bilingual Art Instructor, Beginning Drawing Class, Intercultura, Heredia, Costa Rica
Initiated, planned, and conducted an all-ages beginning drawing class in spanish and english
- 2003-04 English Teacher, Intercultura, Heredia, Costa Rica
I taught a variety of English classes from beginning to advanced, including adult, teen, and children's

group classes, and private conversation classes. I held this job for one and a half years. I also gained proficiency in Spanish, which I have used at two other jobs.

- 2001-2 English Teacher, Caledonian School, Prague, Czech Republic
After earning my TEFL certificate in November 2001, I taught private and group business and conversation classes and a group college test preparation class over the course of a year.

Other Professional Experience

- 2018 Awards Judge, Spring Bloom Fine Arts Festival, McLean County Arts Center, Bloomington, IL
- 2014 Panelist, "Ineffability," *Painting as a Form of Wordless Communication*, The Comparison Project, Drake University, Des Moines, IA, November 7
(In conjunction with the group show *Everyday Abstraction* and the larger interdisciplinary *Comparison Project*.)
- Visiting Artist, Undergraduate Critiques, Drake University, Des Moines, IA, November
(In conjunction with the group show *Everyday Abstraction*)
- 2009 Assistant, Installation preparation for artist Nicola Lopez, Santa Fe, NM
Embrace! installation at Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO
- 2003 Editor, Museo de Arte y Diseño Contemporáneo, San Jose, Costa Rica
Edited translated articles for the Museum translator
- 1997-00 Gallery assistant, University Art Gallery, Truman State University, Kirksville, MO

Bibliography

- 2018 McLean County Arts Center, "Megan Kathol Bersett: Traverse." Studio Interview. Normal, IL
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=He0eXno-2Fg> .
- 2017 Studio Visit Magazine, Volume thirty-seven, <http://studiovisitmagazine.com/volume-thirty-seven-participants>, Summer 2017 edition.
- 2016 Kennedy, Laura. "GLT Datebook: Fine Arts Faculty on Display." *GLT News & Ideas: Here & Now*. WGLT Radio, NPR from Illinois State University, Normal, IL. June 25, 2016.
<http://wglrt.org/post/glt-datebook-fine-arts-faculty-display#stream/0>.
- "Lori Waxman – 60 wrd/min art critic" *GLT News & Ideas: Here & Now*. WGLT Radio, NPR from Illinois State University, Normal, IL. March 2016.
<http://wglrt.org/topic/lori-waxman-60-wrdmin-art-critic#stream/0>.
- 2015 Linneweh, David. "Megan Kathol Bersett." Podcast interview, Episode 149. Studio Break. September 3, 2015. <http://studiobreak.com/2015/09/>.
- 2014 Rutherford, Michael. "Everyday Abstraction at Drake University." *Painter's Bread: Visual Sustenance*. November 22 2014. http://www.paintersbread.com/2014_11_01_archive.html
- Duncan, Jim. "Abstraction isn't what it used to be." *City View* (Des Moines, IA). November 19, 2014. <http://www.dmcityview.com/art-pimp/2014/11/19/abstraction-isnt-what-it-used-to-be/#>
- 2013 Bersett, Kevin. "Q-and-A with Megan Kathol Bersett: Abstract painter creates unsettling experiences." *Illinois State University News*, May 17, 2013.
<http://stories.illinoisstate.edu/2013/05/colleges/college-of-fine-arts/friends-of-the-arts/q-and-a-with-megan-kathol-bersett-abstract-painter-provides-unsettling-experiences/>.

“2013 Student Annual.” College of Fine Arts, Illinois State University, Normal, IL. Accessed 2013. <http://finearts.illinoisstate.edu/galleries/current-exhibitions/2013/student-annual-13/index.shtml>.

2010 Eckert, Bob, “Megan Bersett at Hand Artes in Truchas.” *Rio Grande Sun Arts Section* [Española, NM] 28, Jan, 2010: 1-5.

2005 Eckert, Bob. “Megan Kathol Explores Relationships and Change in an Exhibition at the Rio Grande Sun.” *Rio Grande Sun Arts Section* [Española, NM] 20, Oct, 2005: 1-3.

Selected Collections

2018 McLean County Arts Center, Bloomington, IL

2015 McHenry County College, Crystal Lake, IL

2012 The City of Normal, Uptown Station Transportation Center, Normal, IL

Tartan Realty Group, The Flats on Main Street, Normal, IL

University Galleries, Illinois State University, Normal, IL

2003-04 Six mural commissions, Intercultura, Heredia, Costa Rica

Service

2019- Heartland McCauley Gallery Advisory Team, Heartland Community College, Normal, IL
Team meets with college administration to help develop strategies for expanding visibility and community interaction with the gallery and the arts at Heartland.

2013-16 Board Member, McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, IL
served the board on a three-year term, actively participating on the Education and Exhibition committees, and volunteering for events

2012-13 Student Representative, College Council, Illinois State University, Normal, IL
Served a year-long term as voting student member on the Council. I was also a member of the By-laws Committee, which met regularly throughout the year to revise document that outlines Council's membership and responsibilities

2005-07 Board Member, Espanola Valley Arts Festival, Espanola, NM
Organized artist booths, took minutes for the meetings, designed the website, wrote grant to receive money from the local Lodger's Tax, did promotional distribution, helped manage the festival during set up and opening hours, acted as Secretary for two of the three years of my membership

2004-05 Spanish Intake interviewer, JFON (Justice for our neighbors), Omaha, NE
Interviewed clients in Spanish regarding immigration history and status