



Benjy Blanco

Creative Enterprise Management • Teacher • Artist and Toymaker

Work Experience

Creative Arts Manager, ACHIEVA

July 2016 - present

Duties

- Creating a Creative Arts Initiative for a large non-profit organization
- Writing proposals, contracts, project manuals
- Providing mobile art studio services for artists with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Researching PA Office of Developmental Programs regulations

Associate Producer, 13th Gen Films

Jul 2014 – July 2016

Promoted from Assistant to the Producer

Dec 2013 – July 2014

Duties

- Coordinating multiple teams to complete tasks within tight deadlines
- Drafting budgets and bookkeeping
- Designing flyers, toolkits, press notes, and other marketing assets
- HTML and template web design
- Intensive client and film festival research
- Processing, logging, and editing legal clearances

Select titles include: *The G Word: A Documentary about Giftedness* (In Production), *The Watermelon Woman* 20th Anniversary Re-Master (2016), *The Nine* (2015), *Buried Above Ground* (2015), *Desert Migration* (2015), *Black is Blue* (Short, 2014)

Archivist, California College of the Arts

May 2014 – Sep 2014

Promoted from Administrative Assistant

Aug 2012 – May 2014

Duties

- Optimizing large volumes of confidential data for easy reference
- Developing archival methods
- Creating Excel databases

Shop Assistant, JoAnna Commandaros, local sculptor

Dec 2010 – Jul 2012

Duties

- Personal assistant duties
- Maintaining artists schedule
- Bookkeeping
- Refurbishing and fabrication
- Industrial shop maintenance
- Representational sculpture

Teaching and Fine Arts experience continued on 2nd page

Capabilities

Administrative Professional

6+ years working in the fields of management, production, and coordination

- Office, Excel, and Google app suite
- Developing systems for small businesses
- Creating budgets and tracking finances
- Event planning and coordination

Teaching Professional

7+ years managing diverse classroom environments

- Disciplines taught: drawing, painting, sculpture
- Adults and teenagers with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- College and university art courses
- Senior classes for local art organizations

Creative Professional

3+ years professional experience with Adobe Creative Suite – Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign

- Designing digital and print promotional assets

7+ years exhibiting work as a sculptor and artist

Education

MFA, California College of the Arts

May 2014

Sculpture, Film, and Design

Dennis Leon and Christine Nelson Scholarship

For major impact on school culture

Creator of *Stage and Screen* video festival

BA, University of Pittsburgh

Dec 2010

Studio Arts, English Criticism

Graduated summa cum laude

Departmental Achievement Award recipient

Highest honor conferred upon graduation



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Teaching Practice

Teaching Assistant, California College of the Arts **Aug 2013 – May 2014**

Classes: Sculpture Level 1, Sculpture Level 2

Duties

- Dividing up lectures and lessons with professor, managing critiques
- Providing office hours for additional student guidance after class

Main Instructor, Society for Contemporary Craft **Mar 2012 – Jul 2012**

Classes: Senior classes, toymaking workshop

Duties

- Lesson planning and guidance for weekly Spring and Summer classes
- Teaching multi-step techniques for novices from beginning to end

Teaching Assistant, University of Pittsburgh **Jan 2008 – Apr 2010**

Classes: Sculpture Level 2, 4 Semesters

Duties

- Teaching industrial shop techniques for wood, metal, plaster
- Providing students with off-class hours to use machinery safely
- Creating class goals with professors and students
- Safety instruction and monitoring • Shop maintenance

Student art teacher, Upper Saint Clair school district **Sep 2003 – Jun 2007**

Class: middle and high school students with disabilities

Duties

- Programming lessons for a class of 12 students
- Balancing work time and class goals with recreational activities
- Providing one-on-one guidance while monitoring class

Fine Arts Practice

Featured art: video installation *Let Us Tickle You* **Jan 2015**

Incline Gallery 4th Anniversary Exhibition, San Francisco CA

Producer and creator of *Stage and Screen* **May 2014**

Video festival for CCA grads, now in its 3rd year of production

Featured art: experimental video *Oregon Tapes* **Mar 2014**

Breakout show, Something Spacious gallery, Oakland CA

Featured art: light sculptures *Depthcharges* **Oct 2014**

Historic Dunsmuir Manor, Oakland CA

Honors

Panel critic, California College of the Arts Finals **April 2015**

Invitation for alumni of Masters in Film program who work in the field to evaluate student theses

Artist Spotlight – Incline Gallery 4th Anniversary **Jan 2015**

Recognizes upcoming talent in the SF Bay Area

Dennis Leon and Christine Nelson Scholarship **May 2014**

Recognizes California College of the Arts students that have a major impact on their program and its culture

Tillie Spreyer Memorial Award recipient **Dec 2011**

Award for sculpture *Lachesis* at AAP 101st

Student speaker at University of Pittsburgh **Apr 2011**

Graduation ceremony

Pitt Departmental Achievement Award recipient **Apr 2011**

Highest honor conferred upon graduation

Arts and Sciences Dean's Award recipient **Apr 2011**

Award for installation *Santo* at senior show

Arts and Sciences Dean's Award recipient **Apr 2010**

Award for sculpture *Moloch* at Frick Fine Arts

Betty Blockstein Memorial Award recipient **Apr 2010**

Award for sculpture *Moloch* at Frick Fine Arts

Undergraduate Studies Award recipient **Apr 2009**

Award for sculpture *Caesar* at Frick Fine Arts

Martin Richard and Susan Gluck Award recipient **Apr 2008**

Award for installation *Gondrites* at Frick Fine Arts

Featured art: short film *Dinoplasty* **Jun 2013**

QCC International Exhibition, San Francisco CA

Featured Art: sculpture *Khalul* **Mar 2012**

Void show, Panza Gallery, Pittsburgh PA

Featured art: sculpture *Lachesis* **Nov 2011**

Associated Artists of Pittsburgh 101st Annual

Featured art: Natural History fossil installation **Dec 2010**

Honors College, University of Pittsburgh