

# Brigid Patricia O’Kane

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## Education

2020 Permaculture Design Certification, Cincinnati Permaculture Institute  
2005 University of Cincinnati, Master of Fine Art, Summa Cum Laude  
1990 College for Creative Studies, Bachelor of Fine Art, Summa Cum Laude  
1986 Macomb College, Associate of Applied Arts, Summa Cum Laude

## Experience

2000-present Associate Professor, University of Cincinnati (UC), Ohio  
2017-present Resident Instructor, *Drawing as Mindfulness*, Manifest Drawing Center, Ohio  
2004-present Co-Founder and Board Member, Manifest Creative Research Gallery & Drawing Center, a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization, Ohio – website: [manifestgallery.org](http://manifestgallery.org)  
2000 Instructor, Art Center College of Design, California  
2000-2001 Independent Production Set Designer within the Film Industry, California  
1995 Instructor, Cleveland Institute of Art, Ohio  
1990-2000 Senior Lead Creative Designer, General Motors (GM) Design Center, Michigan  
1990-1999 Instructor, College for Creative Studies, Michigan  
1989-1990 Creative Designer, Cars and Concepts Incorporated, Michigan  
1988 Creative Designer, Prince Corporation, Michigan  
1984-1986 Layout & Technical Illustration for Tank Manuals, Pioneer Engineering, Michigan

## Exhibitions

2025 *Masur Museum of Art's 62nd Annual Juried Competition*, group, Monroe, Louisiana  
2025 *59th CAIN National Show*, group, Corpus Christi, Texas  
2025 *Sinclair Community College Art Galleries 2025*, two-person, Dayton, Ohio (*anticipated*)  
2025 *INT'L Paperworks Call For Entries*, group, Minot State University, North West Arts Center, North Dakota  
2024 *62nd Mid-States Art Exhibition*, group, Evansville Museum, Indiana  
2024 *INT'L All Media Call For Entries*, group, Minot State University, North West Arts Center, North Dakota  
2024 *Brand 52: Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper*, group, Glendale California  
2024 *Lore Degenstein Gallery's 15th Annual Figurative Art Exhibition*, group, Susquehanna University, Pennsylvania  
2024 *37th Annual McNeese National Works on Paper*, group, McNeese State University, Louisiana  
2024 *Baker University National Exhibition*, group, Holt Russell Gallery, Kansas  
2024 *Faculty and Emeriti Showcase Exhibition*, group, Reed Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Ohio  
2023 *Instructors Exhibition*, group, Manifest Drawing Center, Cincinnati, Ohio  
2022 *DAAP Faculty & Staff Exhibition*, group, Reed Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Ohio  
2011 *Continuum of the Natural*, group, Passage Gallery, Cincinnati, Ohio  
2011 *DAAP Faculty Show*, group, Reed Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Ohio  
2011 *The Drawing League*, group, Centre College, Danville, Kentucky  
2010 *Drawing League*, group, Fawick Gallery, Baldwin Wallace College, Berea, Ohio  
2010 *DAAP Faculty Show*, group, Reed Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Ohio  
2005 *Continuum, Drawings by Brigid O’Kane*, solo, Meyers Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Ohio  
2005 *Prelude to Continuum*, solo, University of Cincinnati, Ohio  
2004 *Drawings by Brigid O’Kane*, two-person, 840 Gallery, University of Cincinnati, Ohio

- 1998 *Get the Red Out*, group, Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, Birmingham, Michigan  
1990 *Creative Works Exhibition*, group, College of Creative Studies, Detroit, Michigan

### **Curated Exhibitions**

- Alumni Show: The More Things Change...*, a co-curated exhibition at the Meyers Gallery, University of Cincinnati. October 21, 2010 - November 12, 2010  
*Urban Interventions*, co-curated exhibition in the Reed Gallery in the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning at the University of Cincinnati. January 14, 2010 - February 19, 2010  
*The Drawthrough Collection by Scott Robertson*, co-curated exhibit, Manifest Creative Research Gallery & Drawing Center. December 2006 - January 2007  
*Trans and Transportation Design*, curated exhibit at Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center. November 11 - December 9, 2005

### **Workshops**

- Drawing as Mindfulness*, Greywood Arts, Killeagh, Ireland, July 4, 2024  
*Shaping the Future*, 1-day workshop, University of Cincinnati, November 13, 2015  
*Drawing Strategies & the Principles of Visual Organization*, 1-day workshop, Jianagnan University, China, 2013  
*Photography and Composition Workshop*, 2 and 1-week workshops, University of Cincinnati, 2003, 2004, 2007, 2011, and 2012  
*Drawing Summer Camp*, University of Cincinnati, June 26-27, 2012  
*Design Drawing: Types of Drawings and Integrated Processes*, Presentation at Manifest Drawing Center during the Drawing Summer Camp, August 10, 2011  
*Drawing Summer Camp*, University of Cincinnati, June 19-25, 2011  
*Workshop Week 2010*, 1-week workshop, Artesis University College, Antwerpen, Belgium, February 1-5, 2010  
*Design Drawing Workshop and Advanced Design Drawing Workshop*, 1 and 2-day workshops at Manifest Drawing Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. August 6, 2008 and August 11 & 13, 2008  
*Sketching Workshop*, University of Cincinnati, February 6-8, 2003

### **Residencies | Presentations**

- Awarded Artist Residency at Greywood Arts, Ireland, June 9 – July 7, 2024  
Awarded Artist Residency at Art Center Padula, Italy, May 4-22, 2023  
30 Presentations (17 National & 13 International, Canada, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, Korea, China, India, Mexico, & Brazil)

### **Publications**

- 19 Publications (13 National & 6 International, China, Korea, Netherlands, Germany, & Canada)  
Chapter titled *Building Bridges to New Realms* in the book titled *Design and Designing*  
11 Published interviews  
1 Book Interview by Larry Edsall, book titled *Concept Cars: From the 1930s to the Present*  
1 Chapter titled *Brigid O'Kane* in a book by Constance Smith titled *The Women of General Motors, A Century of Art and Engineering*, 2022

### **Honors | Awards | Recognition**

- 2024 Summerfair Aid to Individual Artists Award, \$5000  
2017 Special Dean's Recognition Award, University of Cincinnati  
2016-2017 Sabbatical Awarded for the academic year, University of Cincinnati  
2014 DesignIntellegence national recognition for *One of the 30 Most Admired Educators*

2012-2013	Faculty Mentor Award, Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Education (PACE)
2012	Best Design Paper Presentation, Global Annual PACE Forum in Shanghai, China
2011	Distinguished PACE Integrator Award for outstanding contributions
2011	Special Recognition from graduating seniors for motivating, inspiring, and encouraging graduates, University of Cincinnati
2010	Best Design Paper, Global Annual PACE Forum, Seoul, Korea
2008-2009	Special Recognition from PACE for leading the Human Machine Interface Interactive Project
2008-2009	Special Recognition Award for leading winning teams, National Sustainable Competition
2007	Dean's Recognition Award for Outstanding Achievements as PACE Coordinator, University of Cincinnati
2007	Special Recognition Award as PACE Integrator
2007	Best Design Paper Presentation, Global Annual PACE Forum, Technische University, Darmstadt, Germany, July 26,
2007	Professor of the Year Award at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning, University of Cincinnati
2006 & 2007	Special Recognition from graduating seniors for motivating, inspiring, and encouraging graduates, University of Cincinnati
2006	Significant Contributions to the PACE Program Award for leading a winning team of interdisciplinary students in a national PACE competition
2006	Nominated for the Professor of the Year Award at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning, University of Cincinnati
2000 & 2002	Two-year Sabbatical Awarded from General Motors
1998	Award of Excellence from General Motors Technical Center, in recognition of achieving extraordinary leadership accomplishments

## Artists Biography

Brigid O’Kane earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1990 from the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, Michigan, and her Master of Fine Arts degree in 2005 at the University of Cincinnati, Ohio. Also, in 2005, she co-founded Manifest Creative Research Gallery and Drawing Center, a not-for-profit arts organization in Cincinnati, Ohio. At Manifest, she is active on the Board of Directors, as Chair of the Friends of Manifest Committee, and as a Resident Instructor. Community engagement is an integral part of her role at Manifest.

Since 2000, O’Kane has been sharing her expertise as an Associate Professor at the University of Cincinnati, where she teaches drawing and advanced studies at the undergraduate and graduate levels. While at the University of Cincinnati, she received 19 significant awards, including the Special Dean’s Recognition Award in 2007 and 2017, the Professor of the Year Award in 2007, DesignIntellegence National Award for One of the 30 Most Admired Educators for 2014, a one-year sabbatical during the academic year of 2016-2017, and the Summerfair Aid to Individual Artist Award in 2024.

In May 2023, she was awarded an Artist Residency at Art Center Padula in Italy, and in June 2024, she was awarded an Artist Residency at Greywood Arts in Killeagh, Ireland. Both residencies were pivotal in her artistic endeavors. Drawings she created at these residencies have been accepted into juried exhibitions, including the *Masur Museum of Art's 62nd Annual Juried Competition* in Louisiana (2025), the *59th CAIN National Show* in Texas (2025), and the *INT'L Paperworks Call for Entries* at Minot State University, North West Arts Center, North Dakota (2025).

O'Kane's drawings have been featured in 23 national exhibitions including the *Brand 52: Annual National Juried Exhibition of Works on Paper* (2024) at The Brand Library & Art Center in California, the *Baker University National 2024* in Kansas, and the *37th Annual McNeese National Works on Paper* (2024) at McNeese State University in Louisiana.

O'Kane has presented her drawings and messages of sustainability at 17 national and 14 international peer-reviewed conferences in Italy, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Korea, China, India, Canada, Mexico, and Brazil. Additionally, she has conducted 12 national and 3 international workshops in Belgium, China, and Ireland. Her design and drawing publications include 14 national and 6 international papers published in Korea, China, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Canada. Her writing continues with a published chapter titled '*Building Bridges to New Realms*' in the book titled '*Design and Designing*.' She is also featured in a chapter titled '*Brigid O'Kane*' in a book published in 2022 by Constance Smith titled '*The Women of General Motors, A Century of Art and Engineering*,' which features her work as a creative designer from 1990-2000.

Inspired by her affinity for nature, O'Kane has always been compelled to draw and create art. Today, she focuses on making drawings for exhibitions at reputable galleries, museums, and educational institutions. Her drawings convey messages linked to the connection between humans and the natural environment. She inspires thought-provoking dialog through her teachings and publications as a professor and by exhibiting her drawings as a visual artist.