

KATHRYN A. SOWINSKI, NBCT

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EDUCATION

Northern Illinois University, School of Art and Design

Doctor of Philosophy in Art and Design Education, degree expected December 2026

Dissertation: *Agential Art Assessments: A Critical Phenomenological Case Study of the Role of Assessments in a High School Art Program*

Co-Chairs: Dr. Doug Boughton & Dr. Kerry Freedman

NIU Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, 2025

NIU Outstanding Graduate Student Award, 2024

George Washington University, Graduate School of Education and Human Development

Graduate Certificate in Professional Teaching Standards, 2009

Maryland Institute College of Art

Master of Arts in Teaching, 2005

Maryland Institute College of Art

Bachelor of Fine Arts summa cum laude in Painting, Minor in Art History, 2004

HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Northern Illinois University (NIU), DeKalb, IL

Graduate Teaching Assistant & Instructor, School of Art and Design, 2022-Present

Courses Taught: Student Teaching in Elementary and Secondary Art; Curriculum

Development in Art: Content and Clinicals at the High School Level; Teaching Art in Elementary Schools; Assessing Art and Design Learning, PK-12

Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA), Baltimore, MD

edTPA Coordinator, 2015-Present

Mentor Teacher for Student Teaching in Elementary Art, 2012

Teaching Internship Supervisor, 2006-2015

Courses Taught: Teacher Assessment; Student Teaching

Carroll University, Waukesha, WI

Adjunct Instructor in General Education, 2025

Alverno College, Milwaukee, WI

Field Supervisor for Art Clinicals, 2025

K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Wauwatosa Public Schools, Wauwatosa, WI

Substitute Teacher 3K-12, 2022-Present

Holy Apostles Catholic School, New Berlin, WI

Art Teacher for 4th-8th Grades, 2021-2022

Anne Arundel County Public Schools (AACPS), Annapolis, MD

Elementary Art Teacher, 2007-2016

Young People's Studio, MICA, Baltimore, MD

K-12 Art Teacher, 2005-2019

Baltimore City Public Schools, Baltimore, MD

Elementary Art Teacher, 2005-2007

CERTIFICATIONS

Provisional License for K-12 Art, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification, Early and Middle
Childhood Art
Youth Mental Health First Aid USA, National Council for Mental Wellbeing

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

edTPA Evaluator, Pearson, Inc., 2014-2024
edTPA Evaluator, University of Maryland, College Park, 2013-2018
Candidate Support Provider for NBCT art and music candidates, AACPS, 2011-2016
Director, Summer Art Camp, McDonogh School, Owings Mills, MD, 2005-2006
Art Specialist, KindergARTen Camp, Johns Hopkins Center for Summer Learning, 2005
Education Intern, The Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD, 2004
Team Leader, Community Arts Partnership at MICA, 2000-2004

PRESENTATIONS

National

Sowinski, K. A. (2026, March 5-7). Visual Research and Agential Art Assessments. In S. Koo, A. Mask, & Y. Cooper (Chairs). Higher Education Division Forum 2: arTED Micropresentations– Reimagining and Expanding Art Education Inquiry. *National Art Education Association Convention*. Chicago, IL.

Greer, S., Sowinski, K. A., & Carlson, C. (2026, March 5-7). Beyond the Human: Teaching with More-Than-Human Perspectives in the Art Room. *National Art Education Association Convention*. Chicago, IL.

Sowinski, K. A., Amuzu, G. K. D., Greer, S., & Raia, J. (2025, March 20-22). Creating Comics in Art Education. *National Art Education Association Convention*. Louisville, KY.

Sowinski, K. A., Carlson, C., Greer, S., & Wor, J. K. (2024, April 4-6). Nature Journaling: A Journey of Discovery and Connection. *National Art Education Association Convention*. Minneapolis, MN.

Sowinski, K. A. (2023, April 13-15). The Positive Art Room. *National Art Education Association Convention*. San Antonio, TX.

Sowinski, K. A. (2023, April 13-15). Pop Art Soft Sculptures. *National Art Education Association Convention*. San Antonio, TX.

Sowinski, K. A. (2014, March 29-31). Wonderful, Wacky Writing. *National Art Education Association Convention*. San Diego, CA.

Sowinski, K. A. (2013, March 7-10). Teacher Portraits. *National Art Education Association Convention*. Fort Worth, TX.

Sowinski, K. A. (2012, March 1-4). Reflective Teaching. *National Art Education Association Convention*. New York, NY.

Sowinski, K. A. (2008, March 26-30). Playgrounds, Museums, and Houses: Sculpture on a Budget. *National Art Education Association Convention*. New Orleans, LA.

Sowinski, K. A. (2008, March 26-30). Elegant Problems. *National Art Education Association Convention*. New Orleans, LA.

Regional

- Carlson, C., & Sowinski, K. A. (2025, October 23-25). Beyond the Human: Teaching with More-Than-Human Perspectives in the Art Room. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. Schaumburg, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A., & Wor, J. K. (2025, October 23-25). Student-Centered Assessments. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. Schaumburg, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A., Brown, E., & Jasso, M. (2025, October 23-25). Visualizing Curriculum: Conceptual Frameworks in Art Education. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. Schaumburg, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2025, October 22-24). Comics in Art Education. *Wisconsin Art Education Association Conference*. Pewaukee, WI.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2024, October 25-27). Nature Journaling. *Wisconsin Art Education Association Conference*. Black River Falls, WI.
- Staikidis, K., Sowinski, K. A., Wor, J. K., Carlson, C., & Greer, S. (2024, October 17-19). Critical Artist-Teacher-Researchers: Pilot Studies at the Doctoral Level. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. Bloomington, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A., Greer, S., Amuzu, G. D., & Raia, J. (2024, October 17-19). Creating Comics in Art Education. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. Bloomington, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A., Coker, E., Carlson, C., & Wor, J. K. (2024, October 17-19). Assessing to Support Students' Social and Emotional Development. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. Bloomington, IL.
- Sowinski, K. (2023, October 19-21). The Positive Art Room. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. St. Charles, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A., Wor, J. K., Coker, E., Greer, S., & Carlson, C. (2023, October 19-21). Nature Journaling. *Illinois Art Education Association Conference*. St. Charles, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2023, October 13-15). The Positive Art Room. *Wisconsin Art Education Association Conference*. Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2023, October 13-15). Pop Art Soft Sculptures. *Wisconsin Art Education Association Conference*. Wisconsin Rapids, WI.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2022, October 13-15). Empowering Students with Academic Language. *Wisconsin/Minnesota Art Education Association Conference*. Red Wing, MN.

Invited Presentations

- Sowinski, K. A. (2025, August 21). Experienced Teaching Assistants Panel. *Teaching Assistant Institute*. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL.
- Sowinski, K. A., Kaye, J., Romito, M., & Wor, J. (2025, April 29). Visual Research Methods. *Conference for Undergraduate Research and Engagement (CURE)*. Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL.
- Staikidis, K., Sowinski, K. A., Wor, J. K., Carlson, C., & Greer, S. (2025, February 18). Critical Artist-Teacher-Researchers: Pilot Studies at the Doctoral Level. Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY.
- Sowinski, K. A., & Malone, S. R. E. (2023, September 23). The Three Types of Writing. *Maryland edTPA Virtual Learning Institute*, Online.
- Feldman, K., & Sowinski, K. A. (2022, September 23). Supporting Academic Language

- Development. *Maryland edTPA Virtual Learning Institute*. Online.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2013). Teacher Portraits. *Art Teacher In-Service*. Anne Arundel County Public Schools.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2012, October 11). Mixed Media Narratives. *Maryland Arts Integration Liaison Professional Development Day*. Annapolis, MD.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2011, November 21). Portrait of an Art Advocate: School Stakeholders. *Anne Arundel County Public Schools Elementary Art Teacher Meeting*. Severna Park, MD.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2008, November 24). Cooperative Learning in the Art Room. *Anne Arundel County Public Schools Elementary Art Teacher Meeting*. Ft. Meade, MD.
- Sowinski, K. A. (2008, March). Elegant Problems in the Elementary School. *Charles Carroll County Public School Art Teacher In-Service*. Charles Carroll County, MD.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- Illinois Art Education Association Membership Exhibition, Schaumburg, IL, 2025
- Illinois Art Education Association Membership Exhibition, Bloomington, IL, 2024
- Re-Inventing Piet Mondrian and the Consequences, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, Germany, 2023
- Artist-Teachers/Teachers-Artists, Monmouth College, Monmouth, IL, 2023
- Adkins Arboretum Juried Art Show, Ridgely, MD, 2019
- Under 500, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD, 2018
- Process and Purpose: Visual Reflections of Art Teachers, Pyramid Atlantic, MD, 2015
- Options 2013, Washington Project for the Arts, Arlington Art Center, VA, 2013
- Small Wonders, Jordan Faye Contemporary, Baltimore, MD, 2012
- Maryland Art Education Association Juried Exhibition, Baltimore, MD, 2012
- Winter Salon, Metro Gallery, Baltimore, MD, 2012
- Maryland Art Education Association Juried Exhibition, Howard County Center for the Arts, Ellicott City, MD, 2010
- Maryland Art Education Association Juried Exhibition, Towson Arts Collective, 2008
- Maryland Art Education Association Juried Exhibition, Howard County Center for the Arts, Ellicott City, MD, 2007
- Maryland Art Education Association Juried Exhibition, Maryland State Teachers Association Gallery, Annapolis, 2006
- Beyond the Looking Glass: Artistic Perspectives of the African American Community, Baltimore's City Gallery of the Maryland Federation of Art, Baltimore, MD, 2004

AWARDS AND HONORS

- NIU Graduate Student Travel Award (\$500) to present at the Illinois Art Education Association Conference in Schaumburg, IL, 2025
- Inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, NIU, 2025
- NIU Graduate Travel Award (\$600) to present at the National Art Education Association Conference in Louisville, KY, 2025
- MICA Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Fund Award (\$1000) to present at the National Art Education Association Conference in Minneapolis, MN, 2024
- MICA Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Fund Award (\$1000) to present at the National Art Education Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas, 2023

NIU Graduate Student Travel Award (\$600) to present at the National Art Education Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas, 2023
MICA Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Fund Award (\$1000) for *Using Research to Improve Art Education*, 2022
Competitively Selected Faculty Course Participant, *Integrating English Language Learners into Instruction*, MICA's Center for Teaching Innovation & Exchange, 2021
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Recertification, Early and Middle Childhood Art, 2018
Teacher of the Year, Northern Anne Arundel Chamber of Commerce, Maryland, 2010
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification, Early and Middle Childhood Art, 2009
Chapel Award, MICA, 2009
Leadership Award, Artsonia, 2007-2008
Kuhnel Scholarship, Mensa Education and Research Foundation, 2004
Master of Arts in Teaching Fellowship, MICA, 2004
France-Merrick Fellowship, Community Art Partnerships, MICA, 2003
All-USA College Academic Team, Honorable Mention, *USA Today*, 2003
Williamsburg Artist Materials Award, MICA, 2003
Robert C. Byrd Scholarship, Wisconsin All-State Scholars Program, 2000-2003
Academic Excellence Award, MICA, 2001, 2002

SERVICE

NIU Cooperating Teacher Symposium, Organizing Committee Member, 2025
Co-Advisor of the NIU Student Chapter of the National Art Education Association, 2024-2025
Adjunct Faculty Professional Development Fund Award Reviewer, MICA, 2023
NIU High School Invitational Art Exhibition, Organizing Committee Member, 2022-2024
National Junior Art Honor Society, Advisor, 2021-2022
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Reviewer of Visual Art Standards, 2015

MEMBERSHIP

Early Childhood Art Educators
Girl Scouts of the United States
Illinois Art Education Association
Maryland edTPA Collaborative
National Art Education Association
Wisconsin Art Education Association

COURSES TAUGHT

Carroll University FYE 199: First-Year Experience
MICA ED 5315A: Teacher Assessment: edTPA Part 1
MICA ED 5315B: Teacher Assessment: edTPA Part 2
MICA ED 5520: Student Teaching (Art)
NIU ARTE 383: Teaching Art in Elementary Schools
NIU ARTE 387: Assessing Art and Design Learning, PK-12

NIU ARTE 345/445/545: Curriculum Development in Art: Content and Clinical Experience at the High School Level

NIU ARTE 488A/588A: Student Teaching in Elementary Art

NIU ARTE 488B/588B: Student Teaching in Secondary Art