

<b>ELISSA ARMSTRONG</b>	1916 Montaigne Drive Richmond, VA 23235 804.393.2371	<a href="mailto:armstrongelissa@gmail.com">armstrongelissa@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.elissaarmstrong.com">www.elissaarmstrong.com</a>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	2002 <b>MASTER OF FINE ARTS</b> , Ceramics, New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, Alfred, NY  2000 <b>BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS</b> , Ceramics, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, NS & Sheridan College of Crafts and Design, Oakville, ON, Canada  1996 <b>BACHELOR OF EDUCATION</b> , English Literature/Visual Arts, The University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada  1995 <b>BACHELOR OF ARTS</b> , Honors, Art History/English Literature, Queen's University, Kingston, ON, Canada	
<b>ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS</b>	2021-present <b>ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR</b> , Craft/Material Studies, VCUarts, Virginia Commonwealth University  2006-2020 <b>DIRECTOR</b> (2009-2020), <b>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR</b> (2006-2009) Assistant Professor, Art Foundation Program, VCUarts, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA  2002-2006 <b>ASSISTANT PROFESSOR / CO-HEAD</b> , Ceramics, Design Department, School of Art and Design, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS	
<b>PROFESSIONAL SERVICE</b>	2023-2027 & 2014-2020 <b>NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARTS ADMINISTRATORS (NCAA)</b> , national non-profit organization, <b>Board Member</b> , (membership elected four year term 2023-2027 & 2014-2020), <b>Conference Committee Chair</b> and <b>CAA Affiliate Liaison</b> (2023-2027), <b>Past-President</b> (2018-2020), <b>President</b> (2015-2018), organization of arts deans and chairs affiliated with College Art Association (CAA), <a href="http://www.ncaaarts.org">www.ncaaarts.org</a>  2019-2021 <b>COLLEGE ART ASSOCIATION (CAA)</b> , national arts organization, <b>Council of Readers</b> , three year appointment, a council of academic experts in their individual fields, selected to review annual conference session proposals and shape annual CAA conference programming, <a href="http://www.collegeart.org">www.collegeart.org</a>  2011-2018 <b>1708 GALLERY</b> , non-profit contemporary gallery, Richmond, VA, <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Term Board Member</b> (membership elected term), the gallery features new and experimental work by emerging artists, <a href="http://www.1708gallery.org">www.1708gallery.org</a>	
<b>SELECTED SPECIAL HONORS</b>	2019 <b>Vermont Studio Center Artist Grant</b> , juried artistic merit grant for 2020 residency, Vermont Studio Center, Johnson VT  2019 <b>VCU Office of the Provost Faculty Development Grant</b> , academic writing support grant, The National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD) Faculty Success Program  2019 <b>National FATE Leadership Award Finalist</b> , peer nominated in 2018 by Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE), awarded every other year by the national art & design Foundational studies educators' organization, <b>Foundations in Art: Theory and Education</b> ,	

an affiliate of College Art Association (CAA)

2018 **Canada Arts Council Grant**, juried arts abroad award issued by the Canadian equivalent to The National Endowment for the Arts

2018 **Banff Center of Art B.A.I.R. Residency Financial Award**, Banff AB Canada (unable to attend and accept)

2017 **National FATE Educator Award Finalist**, peer nominated by Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE) membership during the 2015 national biennial conference, awarded every other year by the national art & design foundational studies educators' organization, **Foundations in Art: Theory and Education**, an affiliate of College Art Association (CAA)

2012 **Faculty Achievement Award for Distinguished Achievement in Service**, peer nominated, annual faculty award, VCUarts, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

**SELECTED  
ARTIST IN RESIDENCE**

2020 **Vermont Studio Center**, Sculpture Studio Residency, Johnson, VT January 5-18

2019 **Medalta Residency**, Shaw International Centre for Contemporary Ceramics, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, May 31-June 28

2019 **Zentrum Fur Keramik Berlin**, Residency, Berlin, Germany, (accepted, unable to attend)

2018 **Banff Centre of Art**, B.A.I.R Independent Residency, Banff, Alberta, Canada, November 5-December 18 (accepted, unable to attend)

2018 **A.I.R. Vallauris**, Residency, Vallauris, France, **National Council on Education for Ceramic Arts** (NCECA) residency partner, July 10-August 10

2018 **Penland School of Crafts**, Winter Residency, Penland, NC, February 4-17

**SELECTED  
EXHIBITIONS**

2026 **Title TBD**, invited solo exhibition, **Appalachian Center for Craft**, Smithville, TN, September 1-November 15, 2026 (upcoming)

2025 **Garden Reverie**, national juried exhibition, **Baltimore Clayworks**, Baltimore, MD, January 11-March 8, 2025

2024 **Coalescence**, invited feature artist, Joel and Lila Harnett Museum of Art, University of Richmond, **National Council of the Education for the Ceramic Arts** (NCECA), Richmond, VA

2024 **Extracurricular**, NCECA juried exhibition with VCU clay faculty, Murry Depillars Building, VCU, **National Council of the Education for the Ceramic Arts** (NCECA), Richmond, VA

2024 **Groundwork**, NCECA/VCU Craft/Material Studies Alumni/Faculty Exhibition, National Council of the Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA), Greater Richmond Conference Center, Richmond, VA

2023 **SECAC Juried Exhibition**, Try-Me Gallery, Richmond, VA

2023 **13th Annual Workhouse Clay International**, international juried ceramic exhibition, Workhouse Arts Center, Lorton, VA

2020 **What We Hold** (canceled due to Covid), three person show with Blair Clemo and Trey Hill,

	Shockoe Artspace, <b>National Council of the Education for the Ceramic Arts 2020</b> conference affiliate exhibition(NCECA), Richmond, VA
2020	<b><i>The Burdens of History</i></b> , annual juried/invitation national exhibition, The Visual Arts Center of Richmond and Glave Kocen Gallery, <b>National Council of the Education for the Ceramic Arts</b> (NCECA), Richmond, VA
2019	<b><i>The Great Divide</i></b> , Morean Center for Clay, St. Petersburg, FL
2019	<b><i>International Ceramics Juried Exhibition</i></b> , The Center for Contemporary Art, Bedminster, NJ
2019	<b><i>Current Art Fair</i></b> , Shockoe Artspace Gallery Booth, Bon Secours Washington Redskins Training Center, Richmond, VA
2019	<b><i>SECAC Juried Exhibition</i></b> , Stove Works, Chattanooga, TN
2019	<b><i>Making</i></b> , digital exhibition, <b>World Congress of the International Society for Education through Art</b> (InSEA), partner of The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Vancouver BC Canada
2019	<b><i>The Emotional Animal</i></b> , Clay Art Center, Port Chester, NY
2019	<b><i>In Place: residency as artistic utopia</i></b> , Anderson Center of Interdisciplinary Studies, <b>National Council of the Education for the Ceramic Arts 2019</b> conference affiliate exhibition (NCECA), Red Wing, MN
2018	<b><i>Craft Forms 2018</i></b> , 24 <sup>th</sup> International Exhibition of Contemporary Craft, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA
2018	<b><i>A.I.R. Vallauris Resident Artist Exhibition</i></b> , Galerie Aquil Siam Ben, Vallauris, France
2018	<b><i>Flora and Fauna</i></b> , The Clay Center of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA
2015	<b><i>Folktales and Legends</i></b> , John Michael Kohler Center, Sheboygan, WI
2015	<b><i>Tallahassee International</i></b> , Museum of Fine Arts, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
2011	<b><i>Fresh Figurines: a new look at a historic art form</i></b> , Fuller Museum, MA
2009	<b><i>Margins</i></b> , The Ice House, <b>National Council on the Education for the Ceramic Arts</b> Invitational, Phoenix, AZ
PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATION	2023 Armstrong, Elissa & Doren, Mariah. <b>"Let's Talk About Critique: Reimagining The Art and Design Education: ."</b> Bristol, UK: Intellect Books & Chicago, USA: The University of Chicago Press, publication date: August, 2023
	2021 <i>Open Hours: Elissa Armstrong: Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts</i> , e-flux, Art & Education, August 2021, <a href="https://www.artandeducation.net/schoolwatch/413522/office-hours-elissa-armstrong-virginia-a-commonwealth-university-school-of-the-arts">https://www.artandeducation.net/schoolwatch/413522/office-hours-elissa-armstrong-virginia-a-commonwealth-university-school-of-the-arts</a> (invited, national)
	2020 Armstrong, Elissa. <b>"The Smartphone and Generation Z: Student Traits, Studio Dynamics, And Faculty Strategies in Foundations Studies."</b> <i>FATE in Review</i> vol. 37 (2020).

SELECTED LECTURES & WORKSHOPS	2025	<b>Workshop</b> , <i>Exploring Critique: what it's been and what it can be</i> , co-presented with Mariah Doren, Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design (AICAD) Symposium: Engaging Values, Pratt Institute, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, NY
	2025	<b>Workshop</b> , <i>The Art of Critique</i> , Palmer Museum of Art, School of Visual Arts, The Pennsylvania State University, The College of Arts and Architecture, State College, PA
	2025	<b>Lecture/Panelist</b> , <i>Exploring Critique: what it's been and what it can be</i> , co-presented with Mariah Doren, session: Critiquing the Critique in Art, Design, Art Education and Art History Classrooms, Next/Now Biannual FATE Conference, <b>Foundations Art: Theory and Education (FATE)</b> , hosted by George Mason University, DC Metro Area
	2025	<b>Workshop</b> , <i>Critique Practice</i> , online, co-presented with Mariah Doren, Luca School of Art, Sint-Lukas, Brussels, Belgium
	2025	<b>Keynote Speaker</b> , <i>Critique in the Contemporary Classroom</i> , co-presented with Mariah Doren, Art Embodied 13th Annual Conference, <b>North Carolina Communication College System (NCCCS) Associate in Fine Arts (FAA) Association</b> , North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC
	2025	<b>Workshop</b> , <i>Critique &amp; Gen Z</i> , co-presented with Mariah Doren, Fine Arts faculty, <b>Wake Tech Community College</b> , Raleigh, NC
	2025	<b>Lecture &amp; Workshop</b> , co-presented with Mariah Doren, Fine Arts faculty and deans, <b>Alfred University</b> , Alfred, NY
	2024	<b>Lecture &amp; Workshop</b> , <i>Let's Talk About Critique</i> , co-presented with Mariah Doren, <b>National Council of Arts Administrators (NCAA)</b> , College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, Annual Conference, Interlochen Center of the Arts, Traverse City, MI
	2023	<b>Session Co-Chair</b> , <i>Critique: past, present and future</i> <b>Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC)</b> , College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, Richmond, VA
	2021	<b>Case Study Presentation</b> , National Council of Arts Administrators (NCAA) Annual Conference, Ringling College of Art, Sarasota FL
	2019	<b>Lecture</b> , <i>Educating the "Safe" Generation: iGen Pitfalls and Challenges in College and the Studio Classroom</i> , session: Limits on Content: How Far Can Students Go in the Studio Art Classroom? <b>SECAC Conference</b> , College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization Chattanooga, TN
	2019	<b>Lecture</b> , <i>Taking Chances: risks and rewards in the first year tertiary art classroom</i> , <b>World Congress of the International Society for Education through Art (InSEA)</b> , partner of The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Vancouver BC, Canada
	2019	<b>Panelist/Roundtable</b> , <i>A Good Four Letter Word: the lasting value of the soft skill</i> , <b>17th Foundations in Art: Theory and Education Biennial Conference (FATE)</b> , Columbus, OH

2018 **Lecture/Panelist**, *Support Structures: shoring up student and faculty success in art Foundation*, **Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE)** affiliate session: A Sense of Support, **Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC)**, Birmingham AL

- 2018 **Lecture/Panelist**, *Two Worlds Colliding: Technology and the Hand*, Session: To Hands Free: Technology & Student Engagement, **Mid-American College Art Association Conference** (MACAA), The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Omaha, NE
- 2018 **Lecture/Panelist/Round Table & Podcast Participant**, *Holding Up the Mirror: inclusion in our classrooms*, Session: Let's Dance, But Don't Call Me Baby: Dialogue, Empathy, and Inclusion in the Classroom and Beyond, **College Art Association (CAA)**, **Foundations in Art: Theory and Education affiliate panel** (FATE), Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 **Session Chair/Lecture**, *Expanding the Classroom & Constructing Cross-Curricular Communities*, **12th International Conference on the Arts in Society**, affiliated with the Cumulus International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design & Media, Pantheon-Sorbonne University, Paris, France
- 2017 **Session Chair**, *Essentials: what they need, but don't know they want (yet)*, To the Core and Beyond: **16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE) conference**, College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO
- 2017 **Session Co-Chair/Workshop**, *Thinking about the Fundamentals*, co-presented with Sarah Mizer, **11th International Conference on Design Principles & Practices**, affiliated with the Cumulus International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design & Media, Institute Without Boundaries at George Brown College, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2016 **Lecture/Panelist**, *Do Over: somewhere beyond the deadline*, The Draft: Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE) panel at **Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC)**, College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organizations, Roanoke, VA
- 2015 **Lecture/Discussant**, *Designing Failure (in a standardized world)*, **Design Educators Conference**, Association of Registered Graphic Designers (RGD), George Brown College, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2015 **Lecture/Panelist**, *Fail Harder and Other High Standards*, Rethinking Foundations: risks, creativity, entrepreneurship and 21<sup>st</sup> century job skills, **Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC)**, College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2015 **Lecture/Panelist**, *Lo-Fi Hi-Fi: a pedagogical time-based approach*, 4D Foundations: new media in an old media classroom, **14th Biennial Foundations in Art: Theory and Education Conference (FATE)**, College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, Indianapolis, IN
- 2015 **Presentation/Poster**, *In the Toolkit: the pencil and laser*, Material Culture in Action: practices of making, collecting and reenacting art and design, **The Glasgow School of Art and Centre for Contemporary Arts**, Glasgow, Scotland, UK (Accepted, Unable to Attend)
- 2014 **Session Co-Chair**, *Foundation: the original interdisciplinary program*, **Mid-American College Art Association Conference (MACAA)**, College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, San Antonio, TX
- 2014 **Lecture**, *Yes & Know: when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em*, **National Council of Arts Administrators Conference (NCAA)**, College Art Association (CAA) affiliate organization, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

- 2014 **Lecture, *Art & Design Foundation: one leading art school's approach*, 34<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the International Society for Education through Art (InSEA)**, Congress of the International Society for Education through Art, The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Melbourne, Australia
- 2014 **Lecture/Panelist, *From the Pencil to the Laser Engraver*, panel: A Hybrid Practice: getting rid of digital media courses, Foundations in Art: Theory & Education (FATE) panel at College Art Association Annual Conference (CAA)**, Chicago, IL
- 2014 **Artist Lecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**, Champaign, IL
- 2013 **Lecture, *The First Year*, co-presented with Karen Videtic, 5<sup>th</sup> Asian Conference on Education, International Academic Forum**, Osaka, Japan
- 2013 **Lecture, *Art School Confidential*, 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference for the National Association for College Admission Counseling**, Toronto, Canada
- 2013 **Lecture/Discussant, *Foundation Programs: design versus art or art and design*, 8<sup>th</sup> International Arts in Society Conference**, Budapest, Hungary
- 2013 **Poster Session/Lecture, *The First Year: changes in identity and perceptions*, 7<sup>th</sup> International Design Conference**, Chiba University, Chiba, Japan
- 2011 **Lecture/Panelist, *Outside the Box, Looking In: Innovative Approaches to Foundation Programs*, On Stream: 13th Biennial Foundations in Art: Theory & Education (FATE) & Mid-American College Art Association (MACCA) joint conference**, St. Louis, MO
- 2010 **Workshop Faculty, Tasmeem International Design Conference and workshops**, VCUQatar, Doha, Qatar