

Leila Ghasempor

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https://leilaghasempor.wixsite.com/mysite | Student Works Portfolio:

Summary

Multilingual interdisciplinary artist and educator helping students find their artistic voice by encouraging critical thinking and promoting a philosophy of community and teamwork. Demonstrated success instructing both child and adult learners, including developing curricula for various mediums and differentiating instruction to make art education accessible for all audiences. Adept at collaborating cross-functionally and contributing to high-functioning teams leveraging strong interpersonal communication abilities. Language skills in English (advanced), Kurdish (native), Persian/Farsi (fluent), and Spanish (intermediate).

Core & Technical Competencies

Curriculum Development | Lesson Planning | Differentiated Instruction | Classroom Management
Online Teaching | Workshop Development | Documentation | Research | Diversity & Inclusion | Website Design
Language Translation | Sculpture | Metal Fabrication | Wood Bending & Carving | Clay Modeling & Casting
Portrait Sculpting | Watercolors | Mixed Media Painting | Photography | Performance | Canvas | Zoom
Google Workspace (Classroom, Meet, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Jamboard) | MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Premier Pro, Lightroom) | Audacity | iMovie

Experience

CHICAGO ARTS PARTNERSHIPS IN EDUCATION (CAPE) – Chicago, IL

Teaching Artist | 06/2022 – 07/2022

Instructed 8-10 pre-K through 7th-grade students per class from public urban schools, teaching conceptual art via interdisciplinary mediums, such as painting, crafts, sewing, and dance. Developed curricula, lesson plans, and assignments, integrating visual, digital, and performing arts into classrooms and combining with real-world lessons to teach students about the environment, social issues, and more.

- Developed group projects to encourage unity, teamwork, problem solving, and creativity, with students exhibiting their work in a final presentation.
- Implemented mindfulness activities to stimulate energy and relaxation.
- Integrated Tree of Kindness into classroom for students to list daily acts of compassion, as well as a class contract with rules and policies to reinforce acceptable behavior.

SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO – Chicago, IL

Teaching Assistant | 08/2019 – 08/2022

Assisted professors with 14 graduate/undergraduate courses with up to 27 students per class, including Performance, Performative Clay, Introduction to Photography, Introduction to Video, Core Studio Practice I, and Environmental Extractions: Art, Place, and Identity. Posted class assignments, documented student work, and managed class in instructor's absence. Supported students via office hours and online class forum.

- Led group discussions on assigned readings, asking thought-provoking questions to expand student thinking.
- Designed in-class and real-world platforms, offering articles, lectures, documentaries, and library resources.
- Developed dance performance workshops to help students stay active and organized collective performances in response to various social issues.
- Created group projects to teach different cultures/ethnicities and help students move beyond their comfort zones.
- Started educational websites for students to display their work during COVID-19 pandemic.

Research Assistant | 08/2020 – 08/2021

Served as member of Crit Clinic, conducting research on criticality of thinking and critique panels in art schools.

- Participated in weekly online panel discussion with educators worldwide to discuss issues impacting the crit field and launch 16-hour critique, including helping professor analyze results.
- Translated documents to/from English and Farsi for professor.

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Education/Scholarships/Awards

SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO – Chicago, IL

Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Performance | 05/2022

Graduate Dean Professional Development Award (2020, 2021) | Enrichment Scholarship (2019, 2020)

National Society of Leadership & Success/Sigma Alpha Pi (2016)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA – Vermillion, SD

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture, Minor in Art History | 05/2017

Exposure Gallery Exhibition Award & Honorable Mention Award, Stilwell Student Juried Exhibition (2017)

Dean of Fine Arts Purchase Award, Wilber Stilwell Student Juried Exhibition (2016)

Purchase Award (2), Salon des Refusés Exhibition (2016) | Harvey & Alwayne Gunderson Art Scholarship (2015, 2016)

Undergraduate Research & Creative Scholarship (2015)

PARKLAND COLLEGE – Champaign, IL

Associate of Fine Arts | 05/2015

Lykins Family Art Scholarship (2015) | Robert Ralph Ford Memorial Art Scholarship (2015)

Purchase Award, Giertz Art Gallery (2015) | Underwood-Alger Scholarship (2014) | Phi Theta Kappa (2013 – 2014)

Specialized Training

Professional Development, Chicago Arts Partnership in Education (CAPE) | 2022

Soliloquy, Pan Theater Workshop with Enrique Pardo & Linda Wise | 2021

Transitstation Voice #3 European Artists Webinar | 2021

Art21 Virtual Teacher Workshop, Rethinking Curriculum | 2021

Mnemonic Aesthetics: Memory & Trauma in Art, 11th Annual Rutgers Art History Graduate Student Symposium | 2021

What is Contemporary Art?, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art | 2021

Native American Art, Art in America | 2021

Curatorial Activism, The Brooklyn Rail | 2021

The Art of Listening: Artway of Thinking Workshop, Federica Thiene | 2021

Nakedness & Nuclear Disasters Workshop, Eiko Otake | 2021

Movement Research Workshop – New York | 2020

Nexus #1: IN/ACTION, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland | 2020

Defining Yourself in the Chicago Arts Environment Workshop, Victory Gardens Theatre – Chicago | 2019

Committees / Community Involvement

SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO – Chicago, IL

Panel Critique Committee (2019 – 2022) | Crit Clinic Member (2019 – 2020)

COYOTE TWINE THEATER MURAL – Vermillion, SD

Main Designer Team (2017)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA – Vermillion, SD

Executive Artist, Festival of Nations (2016 – 2017)

PARKLAND COLLEGE – Champaign, IL

Advisory Board Member, Giertz Art Gallery (2014 – 2015) | Jury Member, Annual Art Magazine (2014)

List of collections, solo/group shows, collaborations, presentations, artist talks, and publications available on [website](#).