cv JENNIFER RUSSO CUNNINGHAM 33 Coe Place, Buffalo, NY 14209 jenrusso33@gmail.com 716-573-4446

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Art
College of New Rochelle, New Rochelle, New York

Art Education Certification K-12
State University of New York College at Buffalo

Bachelor of Fine Arts
Major in Computer Art, minor in Painting
State University of New York at Buffalo

EXPERIENCE

November 2023 - Present Bishop Timon St. Jude High School

601 McKinley Parkway Buffalo, NY 14220

Art Teacher

Took over for the art teacher who resigned after the beginning of the year at this all boys high school. In this part time position, I am teaching three sections of *Studio Art* to students of mixed grade levels. Students get exposure to many different art techniques and mediums. Students talk about their art demonstrating the use of art terminology through critiques, conversations and written feedback responses. Student art is showcased throughout the school in professional looking displays. In a recent color theory unit, students gained incredible painting and color mixing skills with three very different acrylic paintings. A group of students are applying these skills to a very special art project; we are painting an 8 foot fiberglass buffalo which will be mounted on the front lawn of the school. The designs on the buffalo celebrate the bravery and dedication of the Buffalo Police and Fire Departments.

April - June 2023 Edison Elementary School

236 Grayton Rd

Tonawanda, NY 14150

Long Term Substitute

Assumed all responsibilities of the art teacher in this K-4 school in the Kenmore-Town of Tonawanda School District. Completed art lessons already in progress; designed and taught two new art experiences for all grades, hung the

end of year school wide art show and celebrated the graduating 4th graders with a brilliant display of large, oil pastel sunflower paintings. Participated in art department meetings.

Feb - April 2023 Orchard Park Central School District

2240 Southwestern Blvd Buffalo, NY 14224

Long Term Substitute

Hired as a term substitute, I taught PK-5th grade art classes for two weeks at Eggert Elementary. The younger grades experimented with color, shapes and different ways of drawing. Third through fifth grades completed hot air balloon or treehouse drawings and watercolor background paintings that include original ice castle designs in white pastel. I then relocated to the Middle School to assume the 7th grade art classes. Art lessons included color theory, creating radial balance in mandalas, monochromatic landscape painting, optical illusion drawings and clay coil bowls. Participated in art department meetings.

May 2022 - January 2023 Lindbergh Elementary School

184 Irving Terrace Buffalo, NY 14223

Long Term Substitute

I spent six months as the substitute art teacher at this K-4 school. I assumed all the duties of the art teacher. Students made clay sculptures, paintings, prints and drawings of all media. Subject matter included Cubism, observation, seasons, symmetry, music and famous artists. I entered comments and grades in student progress reports, hung multiple displays of student art at the school and district offices and assisted in painting the scenery for the musical 'A Year With Frog and Toad.' I completed 2022 and began the 2023 school year as the art teacher. I also participated in many art department gatherings.

May 2014 - June 2015 Buffalo Center for Arts and Technology

1221 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14209

Art Teacher

Taught two hour studio classes, twice per week at the opening this after school location which rewarded at risk high school students with unique, creative experiences if they attended school that day. I taught various drawing and painting techniques, how to critique art, used many examples of art history and my own work to inspire them. I even lead students in yoga routines regularly.

November 2006 – 2017 Young Audiences of Western New York

1 Lafayette Square, 2nd floor

Buffalo, NY 14203

Teaching Artist

Visited many locations in and around Buffalo, NY for weeks at a time as artist in residence. Collaborated with site leaders and school teachers on expectations of art experiences for their students. Locations included: Buffalo's Central

Library, Heritage Center, People Inc., Erie County Youth Detention Center, The Salvation Army, Boys and Girls Clubs, Holland Elementary, Frontier Elementary, Parkside Summer Art Program. Meaningful art experiences included: Mandalas, self-portraits, nature arrangements and digital photography, prayer flags, floor cloths, observational drawing, cartooning, learning to draw the figure through yoga, nature watercolor paintings, reduction and collograph printing, prayer flags, dharma doll sculptures and acrylic cityscapes and landscapes.

Summer 2012 Health Sciences High School

1140 Ellicott Street Buffalo, NY 14209

Art Teacher

Designed a summer arts program for 9-12th grade students. Students studied the architecture and history of the newly renovated school and created wall hangings and stained glass designs out of translucent paper which included these details. I invited local mosaic artist Claudia Nagy and photographer Brendan Bannon to expose students to new techniques and perspectives. Some students completed mosaics and digital self portraits inspired by their work.

Aug. 2010 - Feb. 2011 Buffalo State College

Art Education Department 1300 Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14222

Adjunct Student Teaching Supervisor

Observed and coached student teachers of Art K-12 individually and in groups, with their school placements. Assistance with lessons development, teaching skills, classroom management, professional presentation and how to integrate into the school environment.

August 2003-June 2006 Clarkstown North High School

151 Congers Road,

New City, New York 10956

Tenured Art Teacher

Taught two main courses: Studio Art and Drawing and Painting.

Studio Art, a foundation level art course covered the elements of art, principles of design and significant historical art works that supported lessons. Students had the opportunity to experience a variety of art media such as clay, watercolor, graphite, tempra paint, inks, colored pencils, oil pastels, printmaking, etc. The Studio Art course included a department designed midterm and final exam that counted as 20% of the grade.

Drawing & Painting, a third year course that followed a five year art sequence included advanced concepts of composition, and life drawing skills. Students were challenged to create a variety of representational drawings and paintings. Formal painting lessons included acrylic underpainting, glazing, creating the illusion of depth and richness in color. Watercolor techniques were highlighted in textural landscape paintings. They also learned frame building, canvas stretching and priming all while exploring different artistic genres. Students created expressive portraits, social commentary pieces, linked text to

art, utilized the elements of a successful landscape and loosened up with non-traditional ways of painting. Students were assisted as they built concepts and found their personal voices as young artists.

All art lessons met multiple NYS Art Learning Standards. Students were always informed of the criteria for art projects with rubrics provided and examples discussed. Worked collaboratively with art department on end of year exhibitions, awards ceremonies and development of our department magazine, *SceneSeen*. Assisted in guiding junior and senior art students on choosing student artwork and laying out of page design for *SceneSeen*.

2002 & 1999 Pace University

School of Education,

Office of School Partnerships

861 Bedford Road

Pleasantville, New York, 10570

Cooperating Art Teacher

Cooperated with two students of art education as a mentor teacher, one at the middle school level and the other at the High School level. Creative, well planned art experiences, classroom management skills, constructive questioning strategies and use of Bloom's Taxonomy were emphasized. Student teachers learned the importance of integrating into the school community through art exhibits, after school art clubs and chaperoning.

Aug. 1999 - June 2003 Clarkstown Central School District

Felix Festa Middle School

30 Parrot Road

West Nyack, New York, 10994

Tenured Art Teacher

Lead 6th grade students through the process of creating a book of illustrations demonstrating their knowledge about the Elements of Design as they gained a deeper understanding of how they could use: line, color, value, texture, space, form and shape to visually communicate an idea. I also taught a *Textural Explorations* class to seventh grade students. They used a variety of media to create sculptures, reliefs, prints, drawings and paintings that lead students to simulate the textures and forms of our world in their art assignments. Facilitated a student mural whose theme was world unity, following the September 11 tragedy. Collaborated with the art department on redeveloping the seventh grade curriculum. Also worked with students in painting scenery for school plays as well as Winter and Spring Concerts.

Aug. 1998 – June 1999 Clarkstown Central School District

New City Elementary School

60 Crestwood Drive

New City, New York, 10956

Art Teacher

Facilitated artistic experiences for students from kindergarten to fifth grade. Many art lessons supported classroom and grade level learning. A vast variety of art mediums were used.

April - June 1998

Buffalo Public School District Blackrock Academy

101 Hertel Avenue Buffalo. NY 14207

Art Teacher

Created art experiences for students in fourth through seventh grades. Lessons covered the use of a variety of media and techniques. Art historical elements were also incorporated, for example using the works of Georgia O'Keefe and MC Escher as motivation. Focus was also on celebrating art from a variety of cultures that were reflected in the school's population. This included African, Native American, Mexican and Asian inspired arts.

Related Experience

Sept. 2020-present Terra Clay Studio

2954 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, NY 14217

Pottery Student

Created functional and artistic pottery pieces on and off the potters wheel. Learned a variety of clay building and glazing techniques.

May 2013 Young Audiences of Western New York

1 Lafayette Square, 2nd floor

Buffalo, NY 14203

Muralist

Three, 4×4 ft. acrylic paintings picturing animals were commissioned by the CAO Head Start Center on East Ferry Street, Buffalo, NY. The first scene is of colorful under water creatures, the second is of flying animals and insects in the sky during a grand sunrise, and the third depicts land animals, including some of decorated animals of India. They are displayed in the reading room of the center.

April 2012 Young Audiences of Western New York

1 Lafayette Square, 2nd floor

Buffalo, NY 14203

Rural Teaching Artist Trainer

As part of the Young Audiences team, we collaborated in training a group of 12 artists who live outside of Buffalo to become teaching artists. We helped them shape their unique talents into educational programming to be used in schools and after school settings.

2002 August Asarese-Matters Youth Center

50 Reese Street Buffalo, New York 14213

Mural Painter

Hired by Pan Am Public Art: Art Across Borders filmmakers Beatriz Flores and Sonia Malfa along with painter Jennifer Fuentes to paint a 16x68 ft. mural based on the documentary film *On Women's Recipes*. The mural's imagery exhibits

the diversity of Buffalo residents as they prepare foods native to their cultures.

<u>References</u> Available upon request.