







CONTACT

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-  laurelridgestudio.com

SKILLS

- Teaching
- Curriculum Development
- Technology Integration
- Grant Writing
- Project Management
- Design - Adobe Creative Suite & GSuite
- Marketing

NON-PROFIT BOARDS

Forge Appalachia, Treasurer
2023-present
Rural Retreat Historical Society
2018-2021

EDUCATION

ASSOCIATES/ GRAPHIC DESIGN

Virginia Intermont College, 2001-2004

BACHELOR OF FINE ART - EDUCATION PK-12

Virginia Intermont College, 2001-2005

VDOE TEACHING ENDORSEMENTS

Arts Education PK-12
Special Education PK-12

ERIN SIMONS

PROFILE

I am passionate about art, history, and my community which has resulted in a career that supports education and creative thinking. Building my home and entrepreneurial endeavors in the Appalachian Mountains has inspired me to blend preserving local history with modern technology to inspire the next generation of artists and engage learners of all ages and abilities.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ART, MUSIC, & SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER PK-5 & 8-12

Wythe County Public Schools / 2006-2011, 2018-present

- Designed, developed, and implemented differentiated in-person and virtual projects and assignments.
- Curated a county-wide student art exhibition in collaboration with all of the district schools, local arts council, and local businesses.
- Collaborated with general education teachers to incorporate cross-curricular activities.
- Awarded approximately \$28,700 in grants for continuing education and classroom projects since 2006.

CHILDREN'S INSTRUCTOR PK-8

Rose Cottage School of Art / 2015-2024

ARTIST

Laurel Ridge Studios / Wytheville, VA / 2023-present

- Innovation
- Marketing and website design

2023 Central Appalachia Living Traditions Tradition Bearer Fellow

2024 Virginia Humanities Folklife Apprenticeship Traditional Appalachian Broom Making

Interpretation, Demonstration, Education - Broom Making

- Richmond Folk Festival / 2023
- Big Walker Lookout / 2023
- Millwald Theater / 2024
- Birthplace of Country Music Museum / 2024
- Matthews Living History Farm / 2024
- Jackson Homestead Museum / 2024

Curated Shows - Broom Making & Watercolor

- William King Museum of Art 2023-2024 - From These Hills: Contemporary Art of the Southern Appalachian Highlands
- Abingdon Arts Depot Members Gallery - 2024
- The Peck Gallery, Laurel Creek Pottery - 2023 & 2024
- HollerHouse Bristol: Community Spotlight - 2024

DESIGNER & PREPRESS OPERATOR

One Line Design / Wytheville, VA / 2010-2019

- Developed client relationships to assist in product creation and branding.
- Designed logos and typeset various marketing materials for print
- Copy-editing, to improve the formatting, style, and accuracy of publications.