

Michelle Richards-Clermont

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CURRENT POSITIONS

Art Instructor 2014 – Present
Teens, Secondary & post-secondary Portfolio Prep, Post Graduate Portfolios, private and at various locations in the GTA

Freelance Pre-Press & Design 2013 – Present
Island Grove Art Studio

Art Camp Instructor 2024 - Present
Aurora Cultural Centre

WORK HISTORY

TEACHING & WORKSHOPS

Ontario Art Education Association Biannual Conference
Workshop Facilitator – "The art of letting go" April 2026

Art Camp Facilitator - Aurora Cultural Centre 2024 - Present
Creative camp for 14 kids aged 4-7
Create art programming, samples, and directions (for children and assistants) for each camp day (up to 6 activities per day), providing high-quality education for young children, teaching small motor skills, art techniques, and proper use of tools, including respect for each other and the art created

Course Creator & Instructor - Georgina Center for Arts and Culture January 2025
Mastering the art of glazing with oils
Georgina Center for Arts and Culture

Facilitator – "Up Close & Personal : Art & Fractals in the Great Outdoors " June 2024
Team Building with the Town of Georgina's cross-department activities day.

Ontario Art Education Association Biannual Conference
Presenter – "Anxiety in the Classroom" June 2024
Ontario Art Education Association

Paint ClearWater - Plein Air Painting Event and Competition 2024-Ongoing
Concept, Coordinator, Graphic Designer, Facilitator

I was working closely with the Executive Director at ClearWater Farm and was told : Give me an idea to get the artists here, and I will get the funds for it". When a grant opportunity crossed my screen, the concept for the event came to me. Originally a 16-week Georgina-wide painting adventure, to capture the beauty of Georgina's environment and the community at large. I provided a concise outline of the nature of the event, locations for the competitions, all coordinated with existing community events, historic locations, as well as partnering with the Georgina Centre for Arts and Culture. I compiled research and created a complete promo, fundraising package & artist's package for our website that included logo design & uses, welcome letter, registration forms, signage, and sponsor thank-yous. Unfortunately, due to extenuating circumstances, approval didn't happen until mid-May, and the Plein Air Adventure was included in one very successful Open House weekend in July.
The 2025 event was well attended during the Music Festival, with visiting artist Ken Kirsch, an internationally renowned Ontario landscape artist.

Artistic Programming & Facilitator, ClearWater Farm 2021 – Present

Art Educator, Island Grove Art Studio (In-person & virtual) 2020 – Present

Richmond Hill Art School 2015 – 2021
Artistic Program Director
Corporate Team Building & Art Lab Coach
Senior Art Instructor
I was responsible for creating the yearly program for two years before it became the teacher's duty. My responsibilities included researching, writing, and creating samples for 48 class lessons, and camps. I had to theme, research, and facilitate the monthly social painting program, team building art labs, our education outreach programs, and coordinate extra instructors as needed. Virtual classes started 2 weeks after Covid hit, I have a flair for keeping kids engaged with their projects both in-person and virtually.

Arts Program Teacher 2014 – 2015
Town of Richmond Hill

Art Educator, Georgina Center for Art & Culture 2021 & 2025

Art Educator, Mill Pond Gallery 2014 – Present

Richmond Hill Splash Festival Community Art Facilitator 2016 – 2018

George Brown College Con Ed Graphic Design 1995-1997

Instructor - Graphic Communications International Union 1994-1996
Retraining print film strippers and scanner operators in computer graphics and pre-press. I presented the class idea to the President of the Toronto local, and after completing a few courses, were awarded a grant to run the program.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Freelance Current
Concept to completion design and marketing

Senior Graphic Designer 2004 – 2013
St. Joseph Content

Senior Graphic Designer 2004 – 2013
CMI Canada

Freelance Graphic Designer 1994 – 1995
B9 Energy O&M Ltd.

Layout & Packaging Designer 1986 – 1990
Richards Advertising

VOLUNTEER WORK

Complimentary Community Art Facilitator 2021-Present
I provide yearly art activities at Georgina's Free Spirit Festival, Canada Day celebration (leaf printing) and Sutton's yearly Festival on High Street & Duck Races, where I set up a silkscreening activity where anyone can print one of my original Duckie designs.
Community events provide an opportunity to offer the public art techniques not usually presented at public outdoor gatherings. I also bring along my dead things collection for up close and personal inspections of bugs, skulls, and other intact dead things. It's a big hit with the kids!

Casual Art Facilitator After-School Program 2023-Present
Jericho Youth Services, Georgina

Member, Board of Directors 2017 – 2018
Georgina Arts Center and Gallery

Member, Board of Directors 2014 – 2016
Richmond Hill Group of Artists

General Volunteer 2014 – 2015
McMichael Canadian Art Collection

EDUCATION

Diploma of Arts 1986 –1990
Ontario College of Art and Design (OCAD) University

Self-taught in the computer programs I use, including proprietary software, since 1988

AWARDS & SPECIAL COMMISSIONS

Commissioned to paint two portraits for the Georgina Sports Hall of Fame	2026
OCAD Distinguished Alumni Award	2015
Best in Show, Richmond Hill Group of Artists 36th Annual Juried Art Show	2014

EXHIBITIONS & INSTALLATIONS

• Aurora Cultural Center Juried Show - What does a Winter's night hold	2025
• Richmond Hill Group of Artists 46th Annual Juried Show	2025
• Artist in Residence Georgina Centre for Arts & Culture	April 2025
• 2 commissioned 4'x4' paintings by Nurse-Led Practitioners Clinic, Sutton	2024
• Georgina Studio Tour - Last Weekend of September	Yearly
• Seasonal Window Paintings for various Georgina small businesses	2016 -Present
• 6' x 25' 1,200 L water tank painting prep for ClearWater Farm's Fall Open House, where over 100 people completed the painting's background	2021
• Love in the Time of COVID - Georgina Center for Art & Culture	2019
• Mural Commissioned for Georgina's 200th Celebration	2018
• Clearwater Farm Rooster Mural Painting	2017
• Bumbleberry Cafe – Peterborough	2017 – 2018
• Georgina Art Gallery Juried Art Show	2016
• Elements art exhibit ongoing at Bumbleberry Cafe in Peterborough	2016 – 2019
• Richmond Hill Group of Artists Open Juried Art Show, Mill Pond Gallery	2015 – 2017
• Elements - Solo art exhibit, Richmond Hill Center for the Performing Arts	2015
• Artist in Residence at Mill Pond Gallery, Richmond Hill Group of Artists	2015 & 2016
• Solo Show at Covernotes Café, Richmond Hill	2015
• Explorations, The Paper Mill Gallery, Todmorden Mills, Toronto	2015

- Touched By Fire, Juried Art Exhibit, The Roundhouse, Toronto 2014
- Sights and Sounds of Richmond Hill, Mill Pond Gallery, Richmond Hill 2014
- Colour • Life • Line Duo Art Exhibit, Covernotes Café, Richmond Hill 2014
- Hints of Yellow Art Exhibit, Mill Pond Gallery, Richmond Hill 2013
- Solo Photography Exhibit, The Red Line Café, Toronto 2013

References

Sean Douglas, project coordinator (647) 921-7326

Angie Milu, student & parent
(647) 686-5373

Gary Smith, mentor
(416) 910-5535