

## CV

**Rafael Blanco**

1910 Sapphire Ln, Aurora IL 60506  
 775-544-1317  
 rafael-blanco@outlook.com  
 www.rafael-blanco.com

**EDUCATION**

- 2013 MFA, Drawing & Painting, University of Nevada, Reno NV  
 2004 BA cum laude, Studio Art, Saint Mary's College of California, Moraga CA

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2019-Present Assistant Professor, Elmhurst University, Elmhurst IL  
 2014-19 Art Program Coordinator/Instructor, Feather River College, Quincy CA  
 2013-14 Adjunct Art Professor, University of Nevada, Reno NV  
 2012-14 Adjunct Art Professor, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV  
 2012-14 Project Leader HandsON! Program, Nevada Museum of Art, Reno NV  
 2011-2013 Instructor of Record, University of Nevada, Reno NV

**PUBLIC ART**

- 2021 *Diversity in Technology Mural*, City of Aurora, Aurora IL  
*Fisher's Bar Mural*, Fraser Public Art Committee, Fraser CO  
*Salem Heritage Mural*, City of Salem, Salem IN  
*Thinking of You, Rockford*, CREAT8IV Mural Festival, Rockford IL  
*Hunger Coalition Mural*, Idaho Hunger Coalition, Bellevue ID  
*Resilience*, Fraser Mountain Mural Festival, Fraser CO  
 2020 *Lester Bowie Mural*, Frederick Arts Council, Frederick MD  
*UNR Diversity Mural*, University of Nevada, Reno NV  
*Stimulate the Senses*, University of Nevada, Reno NV  
 2019 *Color Isn't Race*, City of Denver, Denver CO  
*Dorothea Lange*, Blue Line Arts, Roseville CA  
*Frida*, Circus Circus Mural Marathon, Reno NV  
 2018 *Western Pacific*, City of Portola, Portola CA  
*La Michoacana*, City of Lincoln, Lincoln CA  
*Plumas County*, Plumas-Sierra Fairgrounds, Quincy CA  
 2017 *The Heart of Community*, Plumas Arts, Quincy CA  
*Irma*, Reno Mural Expo, Reno NV  
*No Parking*, Lincoln Mural Competition, Lincoln CA  
*Snapshot*, Mural Marathon Circus Circus Resort, Reno NV  
*Railroading Away*, Yuba Sutter Arts, Live Oak CA  
 2016 *Art Door*, Feather River College, Quincy CA  
*Dancing Street*, Circus Circus Mural Marathon, Reno NV  
*Flying*, Quincy Elementary School, Quincy CA

- 2014 ***The Jump!***, Circus Circus Mural Marathon, Reno NV  
***We Are Reno***, City of Reno, Reno NV

## AWARDS

- 2021 Winner, Fraser Mountain Mural Festival, Fraser CO  
 Certificate of Commendation, Mayor of Frederick, MD. Michael O'Connor  
 Grantee, Urbana Arts and Culture Grant, Urbana IL
- 2019 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Mural Marathon Circus Circus Resort, Reno NV
- 2017 Certificate of Commendation, United States Senator Catherine Cortez Maestro  
 Winner Lincoln Mural Competition, Lincoln CA
- 2017 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, 2017 24h Mural Marathon Circus Circus Resort, Reno NV
- 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, 2016 24h Mural Marathon Circus Circus Resort, Reno NV
- 2015 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, National All Media Juried Exhibition, Chico Art Center, Chico CA
- 2014 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Painting in the World, NAU Art Museum, Flagstaff AZ
- 2014 Sharon Elizondo Special Award, Haggin Museum, Stockton CA  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, 2014 24h Mural Marathon Circus Circus Resort, Reno NV  
 Professional Development Grant, Nevada Arts Council, Reno NV
- 2013 Professional Artist Grant, Sierra Arts Gallery, Reno NV  
 Outstanding International Graduate Student, University of Nevada, Reno NV
- 2012 I Visual Art Blast Winner, McKinley Cultural Center, Reno NV  
 International Student Award, University of Nevada NV  
 Outstanding International Graduate Student, University of Nevada, Reno NV
- 2011 Outstanding Artist Award, University of Nevada, Reno NV

## EXHIBITION RECORD

### Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2019 Plumas Arts, Quincy CA
- 2015 Charleston Heights Art Center, Las Vegas, NV  
 Plumas County Museum, Quincy CA
- 2014 Western Nevada College, Carson NV  
 Plumas Art Gallery, Quincy CA  
 Sierra Arts Gallery, Reno NV
- 2013 Stremmel Gallery, Reno NV
- 2012 Capital City Arts Initiative, Carson NV  
 Bank of America Building, Reno NV  
 McNamara Gallery, Reno NV  
 Main Art Gallery, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV
- 2011 Metro Gallery, Reno City Hall, Reno NV
- 2010 La Pena Cultural Center, Berkeley CA

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2021 En Medio, John and Geraldine Lilley Museum of Art, Reno NV
- 2019 Faculty Exhibition, Path Gallery, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst IL
- 2015 National All Media Juried Exhibition, Chico Art Center, Chico CA
- 2014 Painting in the World, Northern Arizona Univ. Art Museum, Flagstaff AZ  
 Haggin National Exhibition, The Haggin Museum, Stockton CA

- 2014 Emergence 2014 International Artists to Watch, Myrtis Gallery, Baltimore MD  
Shades of Gray, Abstract to Representation, Contemporary Art Center, Las Vegas NV  
For Whom It Stands TOO, Reginald F. Lewis Museum, Baltimore MD
- 2013 Grants to Artists Exhibition, Sierra Arts Gallery, Reno NV
- 2012 Truckee Meadows Community College Faculty Exhibition, Reno NV  
Cross Section, MFA Group Exhibition, McNamara Gallery Reno NV  
I Visual Art Blast, McKinley Cultural Center, Reno NV
- 2011 Lately, MFA Group Exhibition, McNamara Gallery Reno NV

## MEDIA OUTREACH

Jason Crane, *Aurora's Largest Public Art Project*, The Voice, Aug. 31, 2021  
 City of Aurora, *New Aurora Mural Aims to Empower Youth*, Daily Herald, Aug. 18, 2021  
 Sara Sidery, *New Mural Spotlights Untold History*, WDRB Media, Aug. 19, 2021  
 Salem Leaser Staff, *Mural Brings Women to Life*, Salem Leader, Aug. 19, 2021  
 Sky-Hi Staff, *Health Workers Mural wins Art Festival*, Sky-High News, Aug. 9, 2021  
 Maggie Polsean, *CRE8IV Mural Festival Underway*, WREX, June 17, 2021  
 Karen Bossick, *Hunger Coalition Blooms with Art*, Eye on Sun Valley, June 14, 2021  
 Tony Evans, *Hunger Coalition Opens New Facility*, Idaho Mountain Express, June 9, 2021  
 Timothy Young, *Jazz Mural*, Local DVM News, Dec 5, 2020  
 Graham Cullen, *Music is Medicine*, The Frederick News-Post, Dec 2, 2020  
 Luka Starmer, *Nevada's Social Justice Art*, Double Scoop, Sep 16, 2020  
 Lisa McDonald, *Diversity Mural Makes Bold Statement*, Nevada Today, Sep 11, 2020  
 Office of Marketing, *Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion*, Elmhurst University, Sep 4, 2020  
 Isaac Hoops, *Diversity on Display*, This is Reno, August 15, 2020  
 Damian Gordon, *Diversity Mural Project*, University of Nevada, Reno, August 5, 2020  
 Emilie Rodriguez, *UNR's Mural Project Completed*, The Nevada Sagebrush, July 23, 2020  
 UNR Diversity Mural, 2News, June 23, 2020  
 Emilie Rodriguez, *University Mural Project*, The Nevada Sagebrush, June 21, 2020  
 Lisa McDonald, *Murals Highlighting Diversity*, Nevada Today, June 17, 2020  
 Lori Lizarraga, *Artists Braved the Cold*, 9News, Oct 27, 2019  
 Heather L. Nelson, *Spotlight on Roseville Mural*, Style Magazine, Jul 25, 2019  
 Lauren Westmoreland, *Muralist Begins Work*, Portola Reporter, Feb 28, 2018  
 Nancy Wartik, *Go Ahead, Brag a Little*, New York Times, Feb 23, 2018  
 Roxanne Vallado, *Plumas Arts Mural*, Feather River Bulletin, Jan 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
 Chris Kaufman, *Train Mura Takes Shape in Live Oak*, Appeal Democrat, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
 Joseph Munoz, *The Common Good*, KQNY, Oct. 2016  
 Mari Erin Roth, *Here Today Here Tomorrow*, KQNY, May 26, 2015  
 James Wilson, *Art Teacher to Showcase Artworks Questioning the Use of the Flag*, Feather River Bulletin, Nov 5, 2014  
 Prof. George Speer, *The Global Narrative on Canvas*, NAU Global, Fall 2014  
 Joey Postiglione, *NAU's Newest Art Exhibit*, Jack Central, Sep. 19, 2014  
 Rebecca Kitchen, *24 Hour Mural Marathon*, KoloTV, July 14, 2014  
 Landon Miller, *Downtown Murals*, KTVN, July 14, 2014  
 Jeremy Dunn, *The Work of Art: Artown*, KNPB, May 16, 2014

Anne Hansen, *Works Portray a Cultural and Artistic Journey*, Nevada Appeal, Feb.16, 2014  
 Tyler Hersko, *The Need to Create*, Nevada Sagebrush, Jan.28, 2014  
 Deborah Bohem, *The Universality of Daily Experience*, Capital City Arts Initiative, Aug.2012  
 Brad Bynum, *Living in America*, Reno News&Reviews, Feb.23, 2012  
 Geralda Miller, *Painting Over the Lines*, Reno Gazette Journal, Feb.12, 2012  
 Montse Gonzalez, *Viviendo en 'el Norte'*, El Sol de Nevada, Feb.8, 2012

## PERMANENT & PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

Northern Arizona University Art Museum, Permanent Collection, Flagstaff AZ  
 Pyramid Lake Museum, Permanent Collection, Nixon NV  
 Truckee Meadows Community College, Permanent Collection, Reno NV  
 University of Nevada, Reno, Permanent Collection, Reno NV  
 Western Nevada College, Permanent Collection, Carson NV  
 City of Reno, Permanent Art Collection, Reno NV  
 Nunez Family, Private Collection, Madrid, Spain  
 Crowley Family, Private Collection, Reno NV  
 La Pena Cultural Center, Permanent Collection, Berkeley CA  
 Duggan Family, Private Collection, Oakland CA  
 Alipaz Family, Private Collection, Lafayette CA  
 Christner Family, Private Collection, Stuttgart, Germany  
 Gouldby Family, Oxford, England

## INSTRUCTED LECTURES

2021	The Life of a Public Artist, Visiting Artist Lecture, Salem High School, Salem IN
2015	Chiaroscuro Self-Portrait, Painting Workshop, Saint Mary's Art Center, Virginia City, NV
2014	Rite of Passage, Visiting Artist Lecture, Western Nevada College, Carson NV
2013	Framing Identity, MFA Thesis Lecture, University of Nevada, Reno NV
2013	Learning How to 'See', Lecturer, Professional Development, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV
2013	Learning How to 'See', Lecturer, TMCC Classified Symposium, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV
2012	Learning How to 'See', Lecturer, Nevada Community College Conference, College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas NV
	Painting Timelessness, Lecturer, CLAGS Graduate Symposium, University of Nevada, Reno NV
	Painting Identity, Lecturer, Mixed Blessing Symposium, Truckee Meadows Community College, Reno NV

## UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE ART COURSES TAUGHT

Art Appreciation  
 Visual foundations  
 2-Dimesional Art  
 Color Theory  
 Drawing I & II

Life Drawing  
Painting I, II, Intermediate & Advance  
Survey History of Western Art  
Survey History of Modern Art

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

2019-Present Aurora Public Art Committee Member, Aurora IL