

# Monica Heiser

## Visual Artist and Art Educator

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## OBJECTIVE

Visual Artist who explores the intersection of activism, spirituality, and painting. Driven artist and art educator teaching full-time in the Baltimore City Public School system. Learning with students to create meaningful and personal artwork to uplift the community and empower individual and collective healing.

## EDUCATION

**Towson University, Towson, MD** - *Masters of Fine Art*

AUGUST 2024 - PRESENT

**Towson University, Towson, MD** - *2nd Bachelor of Art Education*

JANUARY 2019 - MAY 2020

**University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC** - *Bachelor of Art and Romance Languages*

MAY 2009 - MAY 2013

## RELATED BCPSS ACCREDITATION UNIT (AU) COURSES

- **Lesson Planning for Black Lives Matter Week in Schools** - *Fall 2020*
- **Humanizing Distance Learning** - *SY 2020 - 2021*
- **Transforming Student Work: Online Portfolios and Digital Projects** - *Spring 2021*
- **Instructional Framework and Rubric: Applying TEACH Indicators** - *Fall 2021*
- **Comprehensive Literacy: Teaching Writing** - *Spring 2021*
- **Accelerated Professional Pathway** - *Fall 2022*
- **Model Teacher Cohort** - *Fall 2022 - Spring 2024*

## SKILLS

- MD State Department of Education Certification PK - 12
- edTPA Certified: 49/75
- PRAXIS 2 Art: Content and Analysis (5135 Score): 188 / 200
- Fluent in Spanish and conversational in Portuguese.
- Proficient in Adobe Creative Suite, Wordpress, Microsoft Office, and Final Cut Pro.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Visual Art Educator, ConneXions: A Community-Based Art School

AUGUST 2020 - PRESENT

- Create meaningful art units for middle and high school student-artists during the extended COVID-19 quarantine and in the classroom ranging from augmented reality art to mural making.
- Build relationships with students and families in an online learning and in-person classroom setting to build community and deepen learning.

### Student Teacher, Patterson High School

APRIL - MAY 2020

- Designed remote learning lessons and units for beginner high school student-artists during the COVID-19 quarantine, taking into account a variety of issues including access to technology and art-making resources.
- Skillfully engaged with students in an online learning classroom setting to build community and emotional resiliency with SEL curriculum.

### Student Teacher, Charles Carroll Barrister Elementary #34

JANUARY - MARCH 2020

- Designed engaging, creative, and culturally responsive art lessons for students Pre-K to 5th.
- Incorporated technology, motivating visuals, and integrated ESOL, science, reading and writing into art units.

### Field Experience, Baltimore City College High School

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2019

- Created and co-taught IB Spanish language interdisciplinary unit on collage, symbolism, and environmental activism to high school seniors with the goal to aid their oral final exam.

## RELATED EXPERIENCE

### Meditation Instructor, Kadampa Meditation Center Maryland

JANUARY 2017 - AUGUST 2020

- Design and teach social and emotional skills weekly to children ages five to twelve.
- Integrate structured learning games, art projects, and stories to teach emotional competencies and basics of meditation and mindfulness.

## HONORS AND AFFILIATIONS

- **Towson University Dean's List** - *Spring 2019 - Spring 2020*
- **President of Towson Student Chapter of National Art Education Association (NAEA)** - *Spring 2019 - Fall 2020*
- **Teaching Fellows for Maryland Scholarship** - *Fall 2019 - Spring 2020*
- **Member of Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society in Education** - *Spring 2020 - 2022*
- **Member of NAEA and Maryland Art Education Association (MAEA)** - *May 2019 - Present*

- **Attended MAEA State Conference** - *September 2019*
- **Presented at NAEA National Conference** - *March 2021*
- **Attended the NAEA National Conference** - *March 2022*
- **Published article in the MAEA Gazette** - *July 2021*
- **Launched ConneXions as an Arts Everyday School (AED)** - *September 2021 - Present*
- **Voices of Baltimore Fellowship** - *September 2022 - May 2023*
- **Nominated for Visual Art Teacher of the Year by AED** - *Spring 2023*

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- **Teacher As Artist, Baltimore County Artist Guild** - *Spring 2023*
- **Reflections, 4th Juried Art Competition** - *October 2024*

## STUDENT SHOWS

- **May Is Fine Arts Month School Solo Exhibition** - *Spring 2022, 2023, 2024*
- **Courting Art Exhibition** - *Spring 2023, 2024*
- **Arts Everyday 10x10 Exhibition** - *Spring 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024*
- **Reginald Lewis High School “Men of Change” Exhibition** - *Spring 2021*
- **Mondawmin Youth Showcase** - *Spring 2022*
- **Baltimore-Washington International Airport Youth Gallery Showcase** - *Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2024*

## REFERENCES

### Dr. Diane Kuthy

- Assistant Professor of Arts Education at Towson University
- Email: [dkuthy@towson.edu](mailto:dkuthy@towson.edu)
- Cell: (443) 248-7022

### Stuart Stein

- Professor of Studio Art at Towson University
- Email: [stein@towson.edu](mailto:stein@towson.edu)
- Cell: (410) 704-2801