

Kristin Putchinski

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Objective

[REDACTED] My goal is to contribute to and participate in a dynamic, collaborative environment that fosters intellectual and artistic growth. I strive to work with students who are lifelong learners, passionate about experimentation, and dedicated to contextualizing the human experience in ways that inspire change and curiosity in themselves and others.

Education

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Degree: MFA, Intermedia and Digital Arts (IMDA)

Graduation Date: May 2024

- **Honors:** *Kathy O'Dell IMDA Award for Best Thesis and Thesis Exhibition; Summa Cum Laude*

Hendrix College

Degree: BA, History

Graduation Date: May 1997

- **Honors:** *Summa Cum Laude*
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Work Experience

Visual Arts Foundations, Adjunct Professor

Company: University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Location: 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250

Dates of Employment: June 2024 - present

- Designed and taught courses in core visual arts subjects, including 2D and 3D design, color theory, drawing, and introduction to digital media.
- Created comprehensive syllabi and course materials, incorporating both traditional techniques and contemporary art practices to engage students with a broad range of media.
- Provided individualized feedback and mentorship to students, guiding them through the development of technical skills, conceptual exploration, and artistic expression.
- Led constructive group critiques, fostering a positive and supportive environment for students to present their work and engage with peer feedback.

- Incorporated digital tools and multimedia into foundational coursework, helping students bridge traditional techniques with emerging media in the arts.
- Engaged in mandatory and voluntary Title IX and Inclusive Excellence training.
- Designed assessment criteria that align with course objectives.
- Supported students with adaptive learning needs.
- Provided academic counseling and career advice in the visual arts.

MakerSpace Manager/Instructor

Company: University of Maryland, Baltimore, (UMB) Community Engagement Center (CEC)

Location: 16 S. Poppleton Street, Baltimore, MD

Dates of Employment: September 2021 - June 2024

- Served as the principal investigator, developer and facilitator for *The SoWeBo Story Swap*, a community-focused storytelling and art project. This initiative fostered “platonic intimacy” through meaningful connections and mutual understanding among neighbors in a disinvested community in southwest Baltimore.
- Conducted twice-weekly courses for community members, teaching them how to operate Maker Space equipment, including 3D printers, vinyl cutters, and sewing machines.
- Managed day-to-day operations of the Maker Space, including ordering supplies, cleaning, and maintaining the studio space.
- Maintained machines and provided IT support for CEC laptops.
- Supported and promoted the weekly Community Walk for the CEC.
- Fostered community collaborations with artists, musicians and performers drawn directly from Baltimore diverse arts community.

Artist/Performer/Composer/Musician/Small Business Owner

Company: ellen cherry

Location: Baltimore, MD

Dates of Employment: September 1996 - September 2023

- Authored, recorded, performed and promoted original music, performance projects and artwork. Over 16 recorded and published sound recordings available world-wide.
- Created original music for radio, television, film, theater, and live performances, including a promotional TV spot entitled “We Are Baltimore” that aired for over 18 months.
- Managed day-to-day business operations as an independent touring musician for 27 years.
- Toured internationally and nationally, performing at colleges, music venues, festivals and conferences, including notable performances supporting Donovan, Glenn Tillbrook, The Holmes Brothers, and Boyz II Men.
- Coordinated touring schedules and maintained professional websites and social media accounts.
- Collaborated with theater and puppet-theater makers as a composer and performer, including Unima USA Citation of Excellence Award winning show, *Alonzo’s Lullaby*.

Skills

- Project management
- Fundraising for artistic projects of a broad scope and significant complexity
- Grant writing
- Management of an LLC and small business operation

- Website design
 - Social media management
 - Tour planning and logistics
 - Instruction, teaching, and facilitation of hardware and software skills
 - Community engagement
 - Collaborative artistic work
 - Songwriting and music production
 - Public speaking and performance
 - Teaching computer skills and digital literacy
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Service

Graduate Student Association Representative (GSA)

Organization: University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Location: 1000 Hilltop Circle, Baltimore, MD 21250

Dates of Service: June 2022 - June 2023

- Served as the voice of graduate students in university decision-making processes.
 - Represented the concerns, needs, and interests of graduate students to faculty, administration, and other student organizations.
 - Participated in meetings with university administration and provided feedback on policies, programs, and services that affect graduate students.
 - Communicated with graduate students within my department to gather input and feedback on relevant issues.
- Informed fellow students about GSA activities, events, and any important changes or opportunities.
- Planned and organized social, academic, and professional development events for the graduate student community.
- Participated in workshops, networking events, and social gatherings that promoted graduate student engagement and community building.
- Represented the GSA in discussions about the allocation of university resources for graduate students.
- Collected feedback from fellow graduate students on issues affecting their experience at UMBC and shared it with the GSA executive board or administration.
- Drafted recommendations for policies that benefit graduate students, such as changes in coursework requirements, funding opportunities, or work-life balance initiatives.

Additionally, during my final semester of graduate school, I served on the IMDA admissions committee, reviewing over 30 applications and making recommendations about candidates.

Food Delivery and Trash Abatement

Organizations: Baltimore Trash Pickers, City Arts, and Greenmount West Community Association (GWCA)

Location: Greenmount West neighborhood, Baltimore

Dates of Service: September 2018 - present

- Removed trash in my neighborhood on a weekly basis as part of a city-wide, volunteer grassroots organization.
- Distributed free produce boxes to low income residents in my building every Wednesday.

Board Member

Organization: Baltimore Monarch Academy, a Public Charter School

Location: 2525 Kirk Ave, Baltimore, MD 21218

Dates of Service: April 2008 - March 2012

- Ensured that the school operated in alignment with its mission, vision, and charter agreement.
 - Participated in developing long-term strategic plans to guide the school's growth, academic focus, and resource management.
 - Assisted in management of \$8 million rehabilitation of and transition to a new school building
 - Monitored the school's compliance with state and federal laws, charter agreement, and regulatory requirements.
 - Reviewed, approved, and monitored the school's budget to ensure financial stability and sustainability.
 - Acted as an ambassador for the school, representing its interests to the community, donors, and policy-makers.
 - Assisted in establishing a school-wide swimming program in partnership with Baltimore City Parks and Recreation.
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Fundraising

- Raised all project funds for my touring theater production, *Portraits in Song*, a multi-media performance based on my 2016 sound recording, *Portraits*.
- Raised all project funds for production of recording and live performance of *Mobtown Moon: Baltimore's Reimagining of Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon*. Over 30 studio musicians were included on the sound recording and 54 additional musicians employed for the live performance.
- Helped to raise \$8 million in a capital campaign for the Baltimore Monarch Academy's purchase and renovation of a new school as a Board Member.

For a more detailed list of works, accolades, awards, discography, and grants during my arts career, please refer to my Artist CV (attached).

Visual Arts Practice

Awards

Kathy O'Dell IMDA Award for Most Outstanding M.F.A. Written Thesis and Exhibition Award for my thesis work, *Piano: & Piano: Theme & Variation*, June 2024

Solo Exhibitions

skin/hunger (installation, video, and sculpture)

Curator: Beth Yashynk

Club Car Gallery, Baltimore, MD, February 2025

Bench, Belt, Speaking and Hex (sculptural works from *Piano: Theme & Variation*)

Curator: Quentin Gibeau

City Arts Gallery, Baltimore, MD, September 2024

Group Exhibitions

Hex & Defense, (video loop with sound, 5:00)

Curator: Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance, invitation only

The Peale Museum, Baltimore, MD, November 7, 2024-January 20, 2025

Reaping & Sowing, (video loop with sound, 12:30)

Curator: Kristen Hileman

The Kreeger Museum, Washington, D.C., June 1-October 5, 2024

Collections

Line Mouth, Tim Nohe

Castors, Kelley Bell

Question Mark, Richard Chisolm

Transistor, Mark Durant

Transistor 1, Jen Pruitt

Transistor 2, Kristen Hileman

Transistor 3, Jane Brown

Transistor 4, Liz Downing

Resting Screw, Rahne Alexander

Music and Performance Arts Practice

Discography list (title, producer/label, year released)

- *Recovering Eurydice* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2021)
- *Collage* (Matthew Collen, CommSounds, 2020)
- *Portraits* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, March 2016)
- *The Thread: ellen cherry and Steve Dawson* (Kernel Sound Emporium, May 2016)
- *Mobtown Moon* (Kristin Putchinski & Sandy Asirvatham, 2013)
- *Please Don't Sell the Piano* (Caleb Stine, Wrong Size Shoes, 2012)
- *Eureka!* Original Score (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2011)
- *(New) Years* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2010)
- *Alonzo's Lullaby* Original Score (Kristin Putchinski & Nick Sjostrom, Wrong Size Shoes, 2009)
- *heart like a lion* (Kristin Putchinski & Darin Lang, Wrong Size Shoes, 2008)
- *Years* (2005)
- *re*dress: songs from the film "For the Want of a Queen"* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2005)
- *the dizzy pleasure club* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2004)
- *the ellen cherry primer* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2002)
- *Waste of Time* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 2000)
- *Demo* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 1998)
- *Careful* (Kristin Putchinski, Wrong Size Shoes, 1997)

Music catalog can be streamed at: ellencherry.bandcamp.com/music and on streaming platforms under "ellen cherry."

Film/Puppet Show Scores and Music Compositions

- *Mom & M*, composer for feature-length documentary film (2021)
- *Anatomy of Wings*, composer for feature-length documentary film (2020)
- *Gun Show**, contributed vocals, cello and song to score (2019)
*Semi-finalist for Sondheim Artscape Prize
- *R.S.V.P.*, original score for short film (2019)
- *The Holey Land: An Allegory**, composer of original score for puppet "crankie" and producer of accompanying film of performance (2015)
*Recipient of Ruby Grant and Puffin Foundation Environmental Award
- *Eureka!**, original score for shadow puppet play with NaNa Projects (2011)
*World premiere featured performance at New Orleans Fringe Festival
- *Alonzo's Lullaby**, original score for shadow puppet play with NaNa Projects (2009)
*Winner of the UNIMA-USA Citation of Excellence, Puppetry's highest national honor
- *Happy/S.A.H.D.*, original score for documentary film (2009)
- *For the Want of a Queen*, original score (2006)
- *Not Another Tolkien Movie*, original music (2005)

Music, Art and Performance Awards/Grants/Residencies

- Baker Artist Award, Interdisciplinary (2021)
- Awarded Maryland State Arts Council Grant for Non-Classical Music Composition (2018)
- Ruby Grant Awardee, Media Arts (2015-2016)
- Puffin Foundation Awardee, Environmental Issues (2015-2016)
- Songwriter-in-Residence, The New Day Campaign (2015-2016)
- Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards Semifinalist (March 2016)
- Bernard/Ebb Songwriting Awards Finalist (March 2015)
- Artist in Residence at the Studios of Key West (April 2014)
- Composer for National Puppetry Conference at Eugene O'Neill Theater Center (invitation only, June 2013)
- Washington Area Music Award for Best Pop/Rock Recording for "Please Don't Sell the Piano" (February 2013)
- Artist-in-Residence, Maryland Historical Society (April 2011-April 2012)
- Strathmore, Artist-in-Residence (2012)
- Baker Artist Award "b" grant Winner (2011)
- "(New) Years" finalist in the Indie Acoustic Project's "Best CDs of 2010" awards (2011)
- Semmes G. Walsh Award for Music (additional Baker Award, 2011)
- *Alonzo's Lullaby* awarded prestigious National Puppetry Award, the UNIMA-USA Citation of Excellence (2010)
- "We Are Baltimore" nominated for an Emmy Award (2010)
- Teaching Artist Fellow for Young Audiences of Maryland (2010)
- Awarded Maryland State Arts Council Grant for Music Composition (2009)
- Awarded Maryland State Arts Council Grant for Solo Vocal Performance (2007)

Podcasts/Web Streams

- *Best Collaboration of the Year*, ellen cherry & Andrew Grimm for "Why Aren't You Famous?" Podcast, WTMD's Baltimore Alternative Music Awards (2019)
- Producer and host of performance/interview webcast "Listen In with ellen cherry" (2013-2016)

Notable Performances

- Featured dancer and creative collaborator with VT Dance in *Speak Space* and *Moving Dialogues REDUX*, (2022)
- Featured musician and actor, *Cabaret Macabre*, by Happenstance Theater (2019)
- Theater performances of *Portraits in Song* (2016-2018)
- Performed solo set on Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center (2012 & 2018)
- Featured performer at National Puppetry Festival (August 2015)
- Opened for Donovan at Montgomery College (September 2014)
- Co-produced *Mobtown Moon*, a collaborative re-imaging of Pink Floyd's masterwork, "The Dark Side of the Moon" involving over 70 Baltimore based musicians and artists; audio recording (released May 2013) and live performance at Goucher College (September 2013)
- Music Director and house band for "O Little Town of Baltimore! Stoop Storytelling Series Live Radio Program", (December 2010)
- Commissioned by Clean Cuts (for local Fox network) to write, record and perform a news promotional campaign entitled "We Are Baltimore" (2009-2010)