

Caitlin M. Black, Ph.D

Assistant Professor

Teaching + Learning in Art + Design

Rhode Island School of Design

cblack@risd.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2023

Emphasis: Art Education

Dissertation: *Assessing the Perceived Impact of a Local, Community- Engaged Mural Project on Preservice Art Educators in Foundational Coursework*

Dissertation Co-Chairs: Courtnie Wolfgang, Ph.D., Ryan Patton, Ph.D.

M.A., Art Education, Boston University, Boston, MA, 2015

B.A, Studio Art, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, 2011

Concentration: Art Education; Minor: Art History

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2025 – present

Courses: Introduction to Screenprinting (Fall 2025), Introduction to Calligraphy (Summer 2025)

University of Massachusetts Global (formerly Brandman University) Irvine, CA, 2019

Career Technical Education Credential

University of California, San Diego, CA, 2017

English Language Learner Authorization

Courses: Orientation: CLAD Through CTET, Culture and Inclusion, Language and Language Development, Assessment of English Language Learners, Foundations and Methods of English Language / Literacy Development and Content Instruction, CLAD Through CTET Portfolio

Morningside College, Sioux City, IA, 2015

Courses: Rethinking Kindergarten (Graduate level coursework in the Reggio Emilia Approach)

Moore College of Art & Design, Philadelphia, PA, 2013

Courses: Digital Photography Techniques & Adobe Lightroom

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor, Teaching + Learning in Art + Design, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2025- *PRESENT*

Instructor of Record:

TLAD651G – Critical Investigations in Arts Learning (Fall 2025)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD652G – Foundations + Futures of Art + Design Education (Fall 2025)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD671– Thesis Research (Spring 2026)
Semester course; 6 credits

TLAD609G – Student Teaching in Secondary School (Spring 2026)
Semester course; 6 credits

Assistant Professor in Residence, Teaching + Learning in Art + Design, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2024-2025

Instructor of Record:

TLAD651G – Critical Investigations in Arts Learning (Fall 2024)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD652G – Foundations + Futures of Art + Design Education (Fall 2024)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD671– Thesis Research (Spring 2025)
Semester course; 6 credits

TLAD609G – Student Teaching in Secondary School (Spring 2025)
Semester course; 6 credits

**Lecturer, Teaching + Learning in Art + Design, Rhode Island School of Design,
Providence, RI, 2023-2024**

Instructor of Record:

TLAD652G – Foundations + Futures of Art + Design Education (Fall 2023)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD450G – Special Topics in Art + Design Education: Critical Curiosities &
Creative Encounters: Public Art as Pedagogy (Fall 2023)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD656G– Colloquium: Contemporary Practices in Arts Learning (Spring 2024)
Semester course; 3 credits

TLAD608G – Student Teaching in Elementary School (Spring 2024)
Semester course; 6 credits

Master's Committee Membership, Rhode Island School of Design (RISD):

Chair – *Julia Braffett, Graduated Spring 2025*

Chair – *Ellie Cashman, Graduated Spring 2025*

Chair – *Keara McHaffie, Graduated Spring 2025*

Chair – *Jade Yun, Graduated Spring 2025*

Advisor – *Christopher Beaudoin, Graduated Spring 2025*

Advisor – *Claire Meagher, Graduated Spring 2025*

Advisor– *Emily Bennison, Graduated Spring 2024*

Advisor– *Aja Delgado, Graduated Spring 2024*

Advisor– *Kaitlyn Lawrence, Graduated Spring 2024*

Reader– *Mah Rukh Raja, Graduated Spring 2024*

Master's Committee Membership, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU):

Reader – *Shahad Alsubaie, Anticipated Graduation Fall 2025*

Adjunct Professor, Art Education, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI, 2023-2024

Instructor of Record:

ARTE409 / 509: Secondary Practicum in Art Education (Fall 2023)
Semester course; 4 credits

ARTE407 / 507: Elementary Practicum in Art Education (Spring 2024)
Semester course; 4 credits

Graduate Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Art Education Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia, 2020-2023

Instructor of Record:

ARTE502 / 402: Art Education Secondary Materials and Practicum
(Spring 2023, 2022) Semester course; 3 credits

ARTE310: Foundations of Art Education (Fall 2022, 2021, 2020)
Semester course; 3 credits.

Graduate Assistant:

ARTE402: Art Education Secondary Materials and Practicum
Semester course; 4 credits (Spring, 2020)

K-12 ART POSITIONS

Art Teacher, 9th – 12th grades, East Village Middle College **High School**, San Diego, CA, 2016-2020

Art Teacher, 6th-8th grades, Roosevelt International Baccalaureate **Middle School**, San Diego, CA, 2016-2018

Art Teacher, Pre-K-3rd grades, Winslow Township **Elementary School One**, Hammonton, NJ, 2012-2016

MUSEUM & COMMUNITY ARTS POSITIONS

Intern, Mending Walls, Richmond, Virginia, 2020-2023

VCUarts Creative Arts Day Camp Director, Department of Art Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2021

Visitor Services Assistant – Van Gogh UpClose Exhibition, **The Philadelphia Museum of Art**, Philadelphia, PA, 2012

JMU Saturday Morning Art Program, Coordinator, The Boys & Girls Club, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, 2010-2011

PROFESSIONAL LICENSE / CERTIFICATION

Teacher License, Pre-K-12 Visual Arts, State of **New Jersey (Lifetime)**

Teacher License, PreK-12 Visual Arts, State of **California**

Teacher License, PreK-12 Visual Arts, State of **Virginia**

CITI IRB – Social & Behavioral Human Subjects Research, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA (Record ID 52650624)

English Language Learner Authorization, University of California, San Diego, CA

Career Technical Education Credential, University of Massachusetts Global (formerly Brandman University), Irvine, CA

RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, & ACHIEVEMENT

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Rowe, A., Slusarski, A., **Black, C.M.**, Danker, S.H. and DiCindio, C. (2025), 'Creative connection: Promoting educator well-being with visual journaling', *Visual Inquiry: Learning & Teaching Art*, Special Issue: 'Knowledge and Data Transparency across Creative Visual Education: Practice, Research and Policy' 14:1, ***Forthcoming***

Danker, S., Slusarski, A., DiCindio, C., **Black, C.**, & Rowe, A. (***In progress***). A collaborative inquiry process connecting creative practice and pedagogical practice. *Creative Practice as Pedagogical Practice*.

Black, C. & Wolfgang, C. (2025). Mending walls. In Kay, L., Heise, D., & Johns, B.H. (Eds.), *Restorative practices in education through art*. Davis Publications.

Link, B. & **Black, C. (2024).** Listening to the pit in our stomachs: A call for vulnerability in art education. *Art Education*, 77(6), 8-15.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00043125.2024.2382655>

Black, C. (2024). Drawing parallels: A review of fleeting monuments for the wall of respect. In Quinn, T. & Limón, M. (Eds.). *FWD: MUSEUMS: "Power/Potential"* (p. 70-83). Bridge Books.

Black, C. (2023). Monumental impact: Honoring the life & legacy of Dr. Melanie Buffington. *Journal of Social Theory in Art Education*. 42, 5–14.
<https://scholarscompass.vcu.edu/jstae/vol42/iss1/3/>

Black, C. (2022). Review of public art and the fragility of democracy: An essay in political aesthetics. *Studies in Art Education*, 63(3), 275–280.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/00393541.2022.2081033>

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Black, C.M. (2025, August 23). The beautiful ripple effects of Mending Walls. *Mending Walls*. <https://www.mendingwallsrva.com/blog/the-beautiful-ripple-effects-of-mending-walls>

Black, C. (2022). In Gude, O., Bertling, J., Graham, M., & Lucero, J. (Eds.). *Principles of possibility as pandemic pedagogy: Still believing we can make a marvelous future*. (p. 10). Conceptual Art & Teaching.

PODCASTS & AUDIO PUBLICATIONS

Contributor on Alsubaie, S. (2023, May 27). How Murals Impact Art Educators w/ Dr. Caitlin Black [Video podcast episode]. In *Cool Stuff by Cool People* [Audio podcast].
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sKEp08MaMFw>

Contributor on Glass, H. (2023, January 20). Part 3: Transcending Walls (Education) [Audio podcast episode]. In *Mending Walls* [Audio podcast]. 19 Red: A Division of Fuel. <https://mendingwallspodcast.buzzsprout.com/>

PEER-REVIEWED SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

*denotes collaboration with student(s)

National/International Presentations

DiCindio, C.M., Dobyys, C., Patel, K., **Black, C.**, & Bergmark, J., (2025, March 20-22). *Not Burned Out, Just Burning the Candle at Both Ends: Challenging Simplified Teacher Retention Narratives*. [Conference Session]. National Art Education Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, United States.

Dewhurst, M., Allen, A., **Black, C.**, McCollough, S., & Koo, S., (2025, March 20-22). *Cultivating Identity Awareness Through Critical Reflection: Research and Strategies*. [Conference Session]. National Art Education Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, United States.

Dewhurst, M., Allen, A., **Black, C.**, McCollough, S., & Koo, S., (2024, April 11-14). *Cultivating Art Teachers' Identity Awareness Through Critical Reflection: Perceptions, Context, and Positionality in Art Education*. [Conference Session]. American Educational Research Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

Black, C. (2024, April 4-6). *Assessing the Perceived Impact of a Local, Community-Engaged Mural Project on Preservice Art Educators in Foundational Coursework*. [Conference Session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, United States.

Alsubaie, S. & **Black, C.** (2024, April 4-6). *Nurturing Radical Empathy and Embracing Engaged Pedagogy to Promote Globally Inclusive Practices in Art Education*. [Conference Session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, United States.*

Black, C., Cox, J., DiCindio, C., Golding, D., Kaplan, H., Kletchka, K., Hamer, L., & Lewis, L., (2024, April 4-6). *Journal of Social Theory in Art Education Author Roundtable*. [Conference Session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, United States.

Black, C. (2023, October 20-22). *The Ripple Effect of a Local, Community-Engaged Mural Project: Mending Walls*. [Lightening Talks Session]. 2023 Imagining America National Gathering: Radical Reckoning: Invoking the Elements for Collective Change, Providence, RI, United States.

Beatty, J., **Black, C.**, Cheeks, G., Johnson, S., & Zapata-Orrego, J., (2023, April 13-15). *The Ripple Effect of Beloved Community Engagement*. [Conference session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, United States.*

Black, C., Dehner, M., Doman, L., Khawaji, F., Mernick, A., & Sions, H. (2023, April 13-15). *Pre-service Possibilities: A Collaborative Conversation Centered on Differentiation and New Approaches in Art Teacher Education*. [Conference session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, United States.

Black, C., Danker, S., DiCindio, C., Rowe, A., & Slusarski, A. (2023, April 13-15). *Creative Care: Promoting Educator Well-Being with Visual Journaling*. [Conference session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, United States.

Black, C., Bode, P., Collins, K., Keyes, O., Lewis, L., (2023, April 13-15). *Dialogic Knitting: Stitching Social Theory with Open Source Papers of Melanie Buffington*. [Conference session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, United States.

Black, C. (2022, March 3-5). *Monumental Impact – Public Art as a Teaching Tool*. [Conference session]. National Art Education Association Annual Conference, New York, NY, United States.

Regional/State Presentations

Black, C. (2024, October 19). *Public Art as Pedagogy*. [Conference session]. Rhode Island Art Education Association Bi-Annual Conference, Cranston, RI, United States.

Beatty, J., **Black, C.**, Cheeks, G., Johnson, S., & Zapata-Orrego, J., (2022, November 3-5). *The Ripple Effect of Beloved Community Engagement*. [Conference session].

Virginia Art Education Association Annual Conference, Richmond, VA, United States.*

Black, C. (2021, October 14-16). *Monumental Impact – Public Art as a Teaching Tool*. [Conference session]. Virginia Art Education Association Annual Conference, Virginia Beach, VA, United States.

Black, C., Brinkley, C., Graziano, K., Schwartz, K., Woods, A., & Zaller, S. (2011, November 3-5). *Teaching Art Education at the Boys and Girls Club*. [Conference session]. Virginia Art Education Association Annual Conference, Roanoke, VA, United States.

INVITED LECTURES

"Data Collection and Analysis" invited lecture for Dr. Yiwen Wei's course, ARTE690/704: Research Methods in Art Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2024

"Community-Engaged Art Education" invited lecture for Professor Jenna Gabriel's course, ARTE310: Foundations of Art Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Fall 2023

"Data Collection and Analysis" invited lecture for Dr. Yiwen Wei's course, ARTE690/704: Research Methods in Art Education, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2023

["Mending Walls"](#), invited lecture with [Hamilton Glass](#), for Dr. Rébecca Bourgault's course, CFA AR 369/569: Art + Community + Social Engagement, Boston University, Boston, MA, Fall 2022

"Visual Arts Integration Across the Curriculum", invited lecture for Professor Jenna Gabriel's course, EDN414: Integrating the Arts in the Elementary Curriculum, University of North Carolina Wilmington, Wilmington, NC, Fall 2022

"Teaching Journey" invited lecture for Dr. Sara Wilson McKay's course, ARTE402: Art Education Secondary Materials and Practicum, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2021

AWARDS AND HONORS

Graduate Assistantship, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2020-2023

VCUarts Graduate Student Research Travel Support Award, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2023

VCU School of Education Graduate Student Research Travel Support Award, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2023

Art Education Merit Award, Spring 2022

VCUarts Graduate Student Research Travel Support Award, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2022

VCUarts Graduate Student Research Travel Support Award, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Fall 2021

VCUarts Graduate Student Research Travel Support Award, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, Spring 2020

Elected Vice President, VAPA Advisory Council, San Diego Unified School District, San Diego, CA, 2019

Jay D. Kain Art Education Scholarship Award, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, 2010

Study Abroad Scholarship, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, 2010

Write On! Award, Department of Writing & Rhetorical Studies, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA, 2008

GRANT ACTIVITY

External

Melanie Buffington START (Social Theory in Art Research and Teaching) Grant, The Caucus of Social Theory in Art Education (CSTAE), National Art Education Association, 2022

Target Field Trip Grant, Target Corporation, 2019

Target Field Trip Grant, Target Corporation, 2018

Target Field Trip Grant, Target Corporation, 2016

Make the World Better Foundation Grant, The Make The World Better Foundation, Philadelphia, PA, 2016

Target Field Trip Grant, Target Corporation, 2015

Make the World Better Foundation Grant, The Make The World Better Foundation, Philadelphia, PA, 2015

Internal

Conference & Presentation Fund, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2025

Humanities Fund, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2025

Professional Development Fund, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2024

Conference & Presentation Fund, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2024

Humanities Fund, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2024

VCU School of Education Office of Research & Faculty Development (ORFD) Grant, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2022

VCU Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program Grant, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2022

Perkins Grant, College, Career, & Technical Education, San Diego Unified School District, San Diego, CA, 2019

Visual & Performing Arts Foundation Grant, The VAPA Foundation, San Diego, CA, 2019

Visual & Performing Arts Foundation Grant, The VAPA Foundation, San Diego, CA for East Village Middle College High School, 2018

Visual & Performing Arts Foundation Grant, The VAPA Foundation, San Diego, CA for Roosevelt International Baccalaureate Middle School, 2018

Pride Grant, Winslow Township Education Association, Winslow Township School District, Winslow Township, NJ, 2015

SERVICE

Service to the University

Critical Response Process Workshop with Dr. Courtnie Wolfgang, Inclusive Critique & Feedback Series, [The Teaching + Learning Lab](#), Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2024

RISD 2024 Graduate Show Coordinator, Department of Teaching + Learning in Art+ Design, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

Mural Walk for [Project Open Door](#) & [Project Thrive](#), Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, 2024

Invited Member of VCU Art Education NAEA Student Chapter Steering Committee, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2022

Invited Student Member of Promotion & Tenure Committee, Virginia Commonwealth University, School of the Arts, Richmond, VA, 2021

Service to the Profession

Rhode Island Art Education Association (RIAEA) Executive Board Member, Community Arts Caucus (CAC), 2025-present

Reviewer, *Journal of Social Theory in Art Education* (JSTAE)
Contact Persons: Carissa DiCindio (cdicindio@arizona.edu), 2024-present

Mentor Reviewer, *Visual Arts Research* (VAR) Special Issue: Radical Publications in Art + Design Education Contact Person: Courtnie N. Wolfgang (cwolfgang@risd.edu), 2024

Secondary Level Division Representative for the NAEA Research Commission's Professional Learning Through Research Working Group, 2022-2024

Invited Juror, The Virginia Art Education Association Central Region's *Artist as Educator Art Show*, ArtSpace Gallery, Richmond, VA, 2023

Faculty Advisor of Gay Straight Alliance (GSA), East Village Middle College High School, San Diego, CA, 2019-2020

Invited Member of Gifted & Talented Advisory Committee, Winslow Township Elementary School One, Hammonton, NJ, 2012-2016

Invited Member of School Climate Committee, Winslow Township Elementary School One, Hammonton, NJ, 2012-2016

Invited Member of School Safety Team, Winslow Township Elementary School One, Hammonton, NJ, 2012-2016

Invited Member of Professional Development Committee, Winslow Township Elementary School One, Hammonton, NJ, 2012-2016

Invited Member of Scheduling Committee, Winslow Township Elementary School One, Hammonton, NJ, 2012-2016

Service to the Community

Coordinator: Mending Walls Educator Professional Development Workshop with Hamilton Glass for Local PreK-12 Arts Educators, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, April 2025

Coordinator: Mending Walls Public Art Student Workshop with Hamilton & Taekia Glass for Project Open Door, Providence, RI, April 2025

Coordinator: Mending Walls Documentary Screening with Hamilton & Taekia Glass, RISD Museum, Providence, RI, April 2025

Volunteer: Project Open Door, Public Art Course with Teaching Artist, Kendel Joseph, Providence, RI, Spring 2025

Volunteer: Mending Walls through Hands-On Greater Richmond, Richmond, VA, 2020-2023

Volunteer: Coordinator and teacher, JMU Saturday Morning Art Program at the Boys and Girls Club, Harrisonburg, VA, 2010-2011

Volunteer: Art educator at Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community, Harrisonburg, VA, 2010

ARTWORKS / EXHIBITIONS

Non-Juried Exhibitions

Department of Art Education Virtual Art Show, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, April 2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

National Art Education Association (NAEA)

NAEA Subgroups:

Community Arts Caucus

Caucus of Social Theory in Art Education

Seminar for Research in Art Education

Rhode Island Art Education Association (RIAEA)

**Professional references available upon request*