

TODD ALLEN

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PROFILE

I have been studying and working within the Stained Glass field since 1994. I was mentored by David Fraser who was one of the most famous Stained Glass conservators and designers in the business. He taught me the most proper and ethical ways to perform museum quality restoration and conservation, as well as the correct ways to design new projects. This on the job training allowed me to grow as an artist to the point of becoming a Master Craftsman myself, and gave me the knowledge to teach others this art form as well. I have worked on some of the most priceless and historical stained glass in the world.

EXPERIENCE

Master Craftsman and Teacher, Brooklyn Stained Glass Conservation Center; Brooklyn, N.Y. - 2002-2011

Brooklyn Stained Glass Conservation Center was a non for profit studio that used grants and other funding to perform its work on landmarks throughout the East Coast. We also had an internship program where artists from Europe would come for a year at a time and myself and David Fraser would teach them the art of conservation, restoration, and design of stained glass. I was responsible for leading the jobs, teaching the interns proper conservation techniques, and was also the Foreman and Master Craftsman of the studio. Some of the major jobs we completed during my time at the studio were: St. Ann's Holy Trinity, Brooklyn, N.Y.. The Bolton windows at St Ann's were the first stained glass windows made in America. We also worked on the restoration of the Cloisters windows in the Bronx. We completed the conservation of five large Tiffany Windows at Lafayette Presbyterian Church in Brooklyn, NY.

Master Craftsman and Foreman, St. Patricks Cathedral; N.Y,N.Y. -2012-2016.

My duties included: restoration of stained glass window panels, venting the stained glass and protection glazing, installation and removal of stained glass windows, installation of protective glazing, teaching other laborers how to work with stained glass, and organizing and running a crew of ten workers. We restored and conservation cleaned the stained glass, removed old protection glass, and vented and installed new protection glass for the entire church. Which was over 70 windows. I worked hand in hand with architects, designers, contractors and church leaders coordinating the different tasks, monitoring progress, and overseeing the job.

Teacher, HANAC; Astoria, N.Y.- 2016-2017

My duties at HANAC were to create a curriculum, teach elderly people the history of stained glass, teach them how to draw and design a small stained glass window, teach them about the tools used for glass work and how to use them properly. I guided them through each step of the process of designing and building a small stained glass window. The students drew a picture of their own design, then I showed them how to break down the drawing into sections so it would work as a stained glass piece. They picked out the different types and colors of glass that they wanted for each piece of their window. I showed them how to cut glass, and how to wrap the cut pieces in copper foil. Then we played them out on boards and I taught them how to solder the pieces of glass together. Then I showed them how to finish them with patina, and complete their windows. It turned out to be a great experience for both myself and the students. They were so proud of what they thought was something that they could never do or even think about doing. It is really rewarding. I hope to continue working for HANAC and develop new curriculums for other classes involving stained glass. For example: painting on glass, or a more advanced class, or an in depth history class, or a group project class.

EDUCATION

University Of Rhode Island, Rhode Island- 2 years

New York Institute Of Technology, N.Y., N.Y.- BFA Fine Art

SKILLS

I am a Master Craftsman of Stained Glass, Master Art Conservator, a designer of glass sculpture, Artist, Teacher, Musician, and have worked as a carpenter as well. Some other skills I have are sound engineering, recording music, and teaching music.