Alison Maria Zapata

321 2nd Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15215

Cell (412) 656-1114

[alisonzapata@gmail.com](mailto:Alisonzapata@gmail.com)

**EDUCATION and CERTIFICATION**

**University for the Arts 2016**

**Philadelphia, PA**

* Teaching Artist Certificate Program

**Duquesne University 2008**

**Pittsburgh, PA**

* Project Gate- Growing America Through Entrepreneurship Program

**Carlow University 1998**

**Pittsburgh, PA**

* B.A. in Art/Art Education: 3.8 GPA, Magna Cum Laude
* K-12 Art Education Certified

**ART EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**16th Annual Learning Early Network Conference 2015**

**Keynote Speaker**

* Led educators, administrators through methods of arts integration strategies for early childhood classrooms
* Led hands-on workshop for teachers, “*Everyday Objects for Art Making in the Early Childhood Classroom*”

**Pennsylvania Council on the Arts 2009-Present**

**Resident Artist for Artists in Education Program**

* Develops and instructs at the Teaching Artist Partnership Summer Institute for teachers and teaching artists in Harrisburg
* Awarded competitive 32k grant to implement a Teaching Artist Partnership in South Fayette School for the purpose of combing art, technology, and math to bring STEM to STEAM through arts integration
* Developed and led professional development workshop “*Artist Residency Planning 101*” at the Teaching Artist Retreat at Boiling Springs, PA
* Design and teach visual arts residencies in public and private schools, preschools, and other non-profit organizations
* Residencies are in-depth projects of varying lengths, taking on the roll as a teacher, mentor, facilitator, art education training, and technical advisor

**Teaching the Arts to Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder 2013-Present**

**Pittsburgh, PA**

* Developed and lead trainings for educators and administration, in conjunction with The Kennedy Center, VSA, The PA Council on the Arts and The Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, on teaching art to children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
* Led standards based professional development training for the administration of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the administration of the 13 state-wide partner institutions
* Presented professional development to educators and teaching artists to improve skills in teaching arts to students with ASD throughout PA

**Penn State Summer Institute on Contemporary Art 2013**

**State College, PA**

* Participant in the Palmer Museum of Art and the Art Education Program in the School of Visual Arts Summer Institute: “Strategies of Engagement through Contemporary Portraiture.”

**PAEYC: Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children Conference 2009-2015**

* Presented “*The Power and Potential of Art-Making with Children*” for professional development of educators in collaboration with Pittsburgh Public Schools and Gateway to the Arts
* Presented “*Destination Imagination: Recycling Everyday Objects into Fabulous Works of Art*” for professional development of educators

**Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad 2009**

**Art and Society: Brazil/U.S. Educational Partnership**

**Rio de Janeiro and Bahia, Brazil**

* Awarded grant to work with Brazilian artists and educators to conduct research to develop interdisciplinary lessons for use in social studies and art classrooms nationally through the U. S Department of Education
* Researched comparisons between 1960‘s art practices in U.S. and Brazil and their legacy for contemporary art

**Western Pennsylvania Arts in Education Conference 2007**

* Presented *“Creating an Arts Blog: an Interactive Approach to Documenting Your Art Residencies.”*

**Point Park University 2005**

**Pittsburgh, PA**

* Arts Integration Instructor for Methods of Music and Art
* Taught education students how to integrate art into their core curriculum engaging students to cultivate active learners

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Pittsburgh Center for the Arts 2005-Present**

* South Fayette Elementary, South Fayette School District

Team taught with Deborah Kuntz to implement the TAP- Teaching Artist Partnership through PCA and PA Council on the Arts

* Led an altered book workshop for the forth grade Fine Arts Week for three years
* Various school art residencies include:

Morningside Elementary, Greenfield Elementary, Roosevelt Elementary, Murray Elementary: Pittsburgh Public Schools, Mother of Sorrows School, Murrysville

**Family Links 2006-Present**

* Develop and teach arts education arts integration with early literacy skills, social studies through art history based art programing
* High degree of student achievement in the arts and award winning student work
* Long-term collaboration with teachers through monthly planning meetings and active participation of teachers in art class
* Plan professional development workshops to infuse art education into everyday classroom setting
* Currently teaching arts programming for students on the autism spectrum, ADD, ADHD, ODD, emotionally and behaviorally challenged students
* Long Term Residency funded through Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

**Gateway to the Arts 2004-Present**

* Studied and Implemented Lincoln Center NYC, Model of Aesthetic Ed.
* Designs and implements various visual art, movement, and storytelling residencies to pre-k through middle school students.
  + **Gwen’s Montessori Preschool and Kindergarten, Washington County**
  + Residency funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Benedum Foundation administered by Gateway and Pittsburgh Center for the Arts
  + **Duquesne University, Wilkinsburg & Elizabeth Forward School District**
  + Committee to administer Reading Enrichment Pilot program
  + Developed and taught workshop utilizing arts integration in facilitating reading comprehension for Grades 3-8

**Boyd Community Center 2007-2011**

* Implemented and taught qualitative arts enrichment programming for Grades K-8 in an after-school setting, inclusion, respect, and equanimity are highly emphasized and effective as the rule
* Holistic and hands-on approach to learning activities such as fine art, literacy, story-telling, environmental education, library, dramatic play, preparation of healthy snacks and cooking
* Curricular connections to cultural studies, literacy, and science
* High program success rate, strong community connections, and strong parent and student loyalty to program

**Saint Sebastian School 1999-2003**

* Art teacher; designed and taught a qualitative art program for Grades K-8 featuring after-school art club sessions and workshops, guest artists.
* Cross-curricular team teaching
* Several regional award winning student works

**PROFESSIONAL ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE**

**Zapata Studios 2003-Present**

* Artist studio specializing in murals, paintings, and portraits

Master of painting in acrylic and oil, highly proficient in mixed media, ceramics, collage, jewelry making, fiber arts, Photoshop, business management

* Clients include: The Children’s Museum, Children’s Hospital, Vivisimo, Carnegie Mellon Robotics Institute, and Novum Pharmaceuticals
* Collectors range from Kuwait, London, NYC, Toronto, Austin, San Francisco

**James Shipman and E. Eberle Ceramic and Sculpture Studio**

**Pittsburgh, PA, 1996 - 2002**

* Studio apprentice, maintaining loading and firing kiln, mixing clay, and assisting with production of sculpture

**EXHIBITIONS and PUBLIC ART 2005-Present**

* Aqui- Exhibition of art by artists of Latino decent.
* Three Rivers Arts Festival, artwork chosen as Children’s Art Area key image
* Three Rivers Arts Festival, designed art recycling bin for public use
* Sprout Fund, painted a 6,700 sq. ft. mural, “Lend Me Your Ears”
* Art for Autism, Boyd Community Center Art Exhibition
* Like a Lion Fish Out of Water, 38 foot inflatable sculpture exhibited throughout Pittsburgh
* Photo Voices, a photo exhibition of area Pittsburgh Latinos in relation to access to health care, Artist Image Resources, Pittsburgh, PA
* Divas and Friends, a benefit for women in drug/alcohol rehabilitation

Pittsburgh, PA

* POWER, a benefit for women in drug/alcohol recovery

Shadyside, PA

* Mariposa, a selection of 10 butterflies, Bella Arte

Pittsburgh, PA

* Ethnic Arts, One Woman Show

Pittsburgh, PA

* Penn Hills Arts and Music Festival, Honorable Mention

Penn Hills, PA

* Women of the Brew House Collective Art Exhibition, curator and participant

Pittsburgh, PA

* PPG Winter Garden, Pittsburgh Artists Collective Winter Show

Pittsburgh, PA

* Pittsburgh Summit on Racism, Featured Artist in Residence

Pittsburgh, PA