

CASSIDY E. WESTJOHN

cassidyartist.com

(217)714-0905 | cassidy.westjohn@outlook.com

EDUCATION

- 2023 Master of Fine Arts | School of the Museum of Fine Arts (SMFA) at Tufts University
- 2021 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting | Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE)
4.0 GPA, Summa Cum Laude - Dean's List 2017-2021

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022-2023 Teaching Assistant Position, *Intermediate Studio Seminar*, SMFA, Boston, MA
Led multiple demos and lectures; assisted Eva Lundsager with studio visits and course prep; helped guide students toward a culminating exhibition at the Piano Craft Gallery
- 2022 Foundry Assistant, *Bucaccio Sculpture Services LLC*, Canton, MA
Summer job where I modeled with Plastilina oil-based clay, corrected wax casts, and assisted in various stages of mold-making
- Art Juror, *2022 Scholastic Art and Writing Awards*, Alliance for Young Artists and Writers, Boston, MA
Juried grades 7-10 painting, drawing, and illustration works
- 2021 Studio Assistant, *URCA Work/Study Program*, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL
Assisted Brigham Dimick with his artworks; mounted paper and framed artworks within a professional art studio
- 2018-2019 Floor/Studio Artist, *Painting With a Twist*, Edwardsville, IL
Taught and assisted painting classes
- 2016-2018 Studio and Custom Design Assistant, *Posies & Pattycakes*, Tuscola, IL
Taught and assisted custom sign classes; designed and created custom tee shirts and accessories

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2022-2023 SMFA Art Exchange Committee, Boston, MA
Designed, organized, and led an art exchange amongst 2023 graduating MFA students
- Graduate Representative, *SMFA Curriculum Committee*, Boston, MA
Elected position advocating for graduate students in curriculum development
- SMFA Post-Baccalaureate Mentor, Boston, MA
Worked with mentee on MFA applications, conducted studio visits, and helped in adjustment to new city
- 2021-2023 Co-founder, *SMFA Action Committee*, Boston, MA
A student formed group made to advocate and create change for current and future students in the SMFA MFA program by acting as an intermediary between students and administration
- 2022 SMFA Planning Committee, *Visions and Revisions Exhibition*, Boston, MA
Organized fundraising, food, and event planning for SMFA's 1st year group exhibition at Nearby Gallery in Newton, MA
- 2020-Present Co-founder, *Averse Pecking Order (APO) Artists*
A monthly critique group designed to help young artists get feedback outside of their institutions
- 2020-2021 Team Member, *Kirkland's*, Edwardsville, IL
Worked register, loaded shelves, interfaced with customers, and organized inventory

- 2019-2021 President, SIUE's *Painting and Drawing Association (PDA)*, Edwardsville, IL
- 2018-2019 Vice President, SIUE's *Painting and Drawing Association (PDA)*, Edwardsville, IL
- 2019 Public Art Mural, acrylic on wall, Tuscola High School, Tuscola, IL
Public Art Mural, acrylic on stone, Collinsville Senior Center, Collinsville, IL
- 2018-2021 Inventory/Assistant, *Air Stamping Inc.*, Effingham, IL
Inventoried printing parts and entered new data; photographed, edited and entered pictures into online catalog
- 2018 Public Relations Chair, SIUE's *National Art Education Association (NAEA)*, Edwardsville, IL
- 2017 Secretary, SIUE's *Painting and Drawing Association (PDA)*, Edwardsville, IL

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION

- 2021-2022 Invited Member of *St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2022 *TransCultural Exchange Conference*, Boston's Colleges of Fenway, Boston, MA
Boston Art Book Fair, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA
- 2018 *Illinois Art Education Conference*, Illinois State University, Bloomington, IL

EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 *Emerge*, The Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Boston, MA (Juror: Emerge Curators)
Been Here Before, Tufts University Art Gallery, Medford, MA (MFA Thesis Show, Curators: Michaela Blanc and Jaspar A. Sanchez)
Boston MFA Pop-Up Show, Lesley Gallery, Cambridge, MA (Graduate Student Group Show)
Therefore: a look through and beyond, SMFA Mission Hill Gallery, Boston, MA (2-Person Show, Curated with Raya Shanawani)
- 2022 *SMFA Art Sale*, SMFA Atrium, Boston, MA (Juried, work sold)
Boston Art Book Fair, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA (Juror: Chantal Zakari)
Between You and I Exhibition, Piano Craft Gallery, Boston, MA (Jurors: Rion Folan & Haley Neville)
Hot Babes Inside Exhibition, SMFA Atrium, Boston, MA (Jurors: Sophia Day & Meg Hollister)
Visions and Revisions Exhibition, Nearby Gallery, Boston, MA (Graduate Student Group Show)
Satellite Exhibition, SMFA Mission Hill Gallery, Boston, MA (Graduate Student Group Show)
- 2021 *Underground Art Show* Exhibition, St. Louis Arts Chamber of Commerce, St. Louis, MO (Invite Only)
That Which Surrounds You Exhibition, Arts Benicia, Benicia, CA (Juror: Asya Abdrahman)
30 Under 30: 2021 Exhibition, Viridian Artists, New York, NY (Juror: Vernita Nemece)
Elevate Exhibition, Webster Arts, St. Louis, MO (Juror: Allana Ross)
Painting Through The Pandemic Exhibition, Rhode Island Watercolor Society, Pawtucket, RI (Juror: Jack Haran)
Annual Juried Art and Design Student Exhibition, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL (Juror: Amy MacLennan)
- 2020 *Identity* Exhibition, Art Fluent, South Yarmouth, MA (Juror: Amy Matteson Neill)
Open Theme Annual 2021 Exhibition, Webster Arts, St. Louis, MO (Juror: Allana Ross)
Every Color Has a Story-A Virtual Show Exhibition, Flagler County Art League, Palm Coast, FL (Juror: Meghan Martin)
Panic Exhibition, O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA (Juror: Chester Arnold)
2020 Portraits Exhibition, Las Laguna Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA
Small Works Exhibition, Wood River City Museum, Wood River, IL (Juror: Brigham Dimick)
Real People Exhibition, Old Courthouse Arts Center, Woodstock, IL (Juror: Joyce Owens)
Premiere Exhibition 2020, The In Art Gallery (Juror: Thad Duhigg)

Art from the Heartland 2020 Exhibition, Indianapolis Arts Center, Indianapolis, IN (Juror: Bryn Jackson)

Annual Juried Art and Design Student Exhibition, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL (Juror: Nancy Newman Rice)

- 2019 *Sculpture Objects Functional Art and Design (SOFA) CONNECT*, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL
Small Works Exhibition, Wood River City Museum, Wood River, IL (Juror: Paul Dresang)
Annual Juried Art and Design Student Exhibition, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL (Juror: Robin Hirsch Steinhoff)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2023 Hyperallergic, "SMFA at Tufts Presents 2023 Thesis Exhibition: Been Here Before." May 1, 2023, <https://hyperallergic.com/818005/smfat-tufts-2023-thesis-exhibition-been-here-before/>
Art Forum International, exhibition announcement with photo, New York, NY, May 2023, vol. 61 no. 9
- 2020 Visual Art Submission, *River Bluff Review* Publication, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL

AWARDS

- 2021-2023 Merit Scholarship, Tufts University
- 2021 *Rose Marie Sacchi Award*, *Annual Juried Art and Design Student Exhibition*
Painting and Drawing Association Award, *Annual Juried Art and Design Student Exhibition*
- 2020 Honorable Mention, *Premiere* Exhibition at The In Art Gallery
Merit Award, *Small Works* Exhibition at Wood River City Museum
Award of Excellence, *Human Touch* Exhibition at Art St. Louis
Award of Merit, *Every Color Has a Story* Exhibition at Flagler County Art League
- 2019 *Art and Design Provost* Scholarship, SIUE
- 2017-2019 *Cougar Pride* Scholarship, SIUE

COMMISSIONS

- 2022 Private Art Commission, *Burr Ridge Home*, 9"x12," watercolor on paper
- 2021 Corporate Art Commission, *Fixin' To Have Fun*, large-scale mural, paint on metal, Boonies Farm, Worden, IL
Private Art Commission, *Black Lab*, 8"x10," watercolor on paper
Private Art Commission, *Ellie and Layla*, 9"x12," watercolor on paper
Private Art Commission, *Frankie and Winnie*, 9"x12," watercolor on paper
- 2020 Public Art Commission, *4th of July*, digital Coloring Pages, City of Tuscola, Tuscola, IL
Private Art Commission, *Mohawk Home*, 9"x12," watercolor on paper
- 2018 Corporate Art Commission, *Downtown Petersburg*, Digital drawing, Posies & Pattycakes, Tuscola, IL
Corporate Art Commission, *Downtown Tuscola*, Digital drawing, Posies & Pattycakes, Tuscola, IL
- 2016 Corporate Art Commission, *Winter Window Painting*, Posies & Pattycakes, Tuscola, IL

TECHNICAL ABILITIES

- Painting Canvas stretching, oil, acrylic, watercolor, glazing, mural work, figure painting, plein air, color theory
- Drawing Sighting and measuring, figure drawing, perspective
- Sculpture MIG welding, plasma torch, modeling with Plastilina clay, bronze statue preparation
- Ceramics Wheel-throwing on treadle and manual, hand-building, general glaze knowledge

Framing	Building stretcher bars and simple frames, hand and stationary power tools
Education	Lesson planning, classroom assistance, teaching and guiding lessons for k-12 children
Graphic Design	Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe PremierePro