

# Lisa Kearsley, MFA, BFA, BA

512-659-3844 • [LisaKearsleyCowling@Gmail.com](mailto:LisaKearsleyCowling@Gmail.com) • Austin, TX • [LinkedIn.com/in/lisa-kearsley/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/lisa-kearsley/)

EXHIBITING FINE ARTIST • ART AND ART HISTORY EDUCATOR K-12/COLLEGE

---

## CAREER OBJECTIVE - ART INSTRUCTOR

---

Utilize my 20+ years' experience in fine arts, art history, art instruction, curriculum development and community education to support and advance a vibrant art program.

I am passionate about all aspects of art and art education as a vehicle to transform lives, engender a passion for learning, and teach valuable life and personal development skills to a wide range of people of all ages, backgrounds, and capabilities.

---

## SUMMARY OF CREDENTIALS

---

- MFA, BFA, BA
  - Juried exhibiting fine artist with recent shows nationwide
  - Experience teaching at K-12 and university level
  - Expertise in oils, acrylics, drawing, design, installation art
  - Art history researcher and instructor
  - Extensive development of programs to use art in community and special education and addiction programs
  - Grant writing expertise
  - Art marketing and promotion expertise
- 

## EDUCATION

---

### **MFA, Interdisciplinary Art History**, Goddard College - VT/WA

- Art history research as documented in the final portfolio.
- Performed extensive research on abstract expressionism, art history, body art, bookmaking, color politics, collage, conceptual art, contemporary art/post-modern art, feminism, graphic design, installations, land/earth art, painting, post-modernism, sacred art and spirituality.

### **BFA, Studio Art/Painting**, University of Mary Hardin Baylor - TX

- Studio practice focused on design, painting, drawing, ceramics and printmaking
- Worked under Director of Fine Arts Department to teach humanities class.

### **BA, Sociology/Psychology**, University of North Florida – FL

---

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

---

### **PROFESSOR OF ART - Lone Star College, Houston TX** **2015 - Present**

*Taught Art, Design, Art Appreciation, and Art History to students in a diverse multicultural community college environment, teaching and reinforcing valuable life skills through art*

- Engendered high 90%+ class completion due to engagement and personalization of content, unusual among community colleges
- Assisted with art exhibits of student art, with more than half of students participating
- Created a student self-evaluation program to teach and encourage valuable life and career skills

---

**PROFESSOR OF ART HISTORY - Central Texas College, Killeen and Gatesville TX** 2014 - 2015

*Taught Art History I and II to incarcerated men and women in a university outreach program at Gatesville Correctional Facility, under auspices of Texas Department of Criminal Justice*

- Developed unique lesson plans, classroom lectures and engagement activities for incarcerated individuals seeking college degrees under tightly controlled conditions

**HIGH SCHOOL ART TEACHER - Lake Travis ISD, La Pryor ISD, and Austin ISD** 2005 - 2014

*Taught all aspects of Art, Art History, Painting, and Drawing to K-12 students in diverse school systems, often to economically disadvantaged and migrant students*

- Developed Wings Apart Teacher Artist Program, which provided private art lessons and tutoring to a wide range of students
- Inspired at-risk students to excel, embrace education, and attend college using art as a platform for personal development
- Coordinated and installed 7 major art exhibitions for student art
- Organized after school art and music classes, and a wide range of student enrichment programs

**RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Department Of Art - University of Mary Hardin Baylor** 2004 - 2005

*Taught Honors Art classes to undergraduate art and humanities students, with focus on artists associated with Romanticism*

- Created innovative art and art history curriculum and interactive educational materials derived from original research traveling to world class museums in London in conjunction with tenured staff

**RESOURCE MANAGER - SET Inc, Charlotte, NC** 1999 - 2001

*Responsible for a private charitable organization's training program working with young adults with special needs looking for job placement and life skills*

- Created student learning objectives and implemented programs tailored to specific intelligences for students with multiple physical and mental health conditions, and taught students to perform job skills for specific positions
- Trained and supervised 24+ students simultaneously in job skills and on-site work placement programs
- Wrote more than 6 successful grant applications to fund innovative programs to enhance student learning

**DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION - Home Companion, Jacksonville, FL** 1998 - 1999

*Taught, evaluated and supervised 200+ workers to provide quality elder home health care services*

- Created an innovative curriculum providing educational training programs to address a wide range of patients' physical and emotional situations and challenges

**SOCIAL WORKER - Gateway Community Services, Jacksonville, FL** 1996 - 1998

*Developed award-winning art program for use in clinical substance abuse programs to support communication and education, meeting all state certification requirements*

- Created arts-based curriculum for court-ordered treatment of women and juvenile residential and outpatient drug and alcohol abuse patients
- Managed daily group meetings to provide guidance, engagement, and motivation to at-risk patients, with a focus on preventing future incarceration

---

**JUVENILE PROBATION OFFICER - Department of Juvenile Justice, Green Cove Springs, FL 1994 - 1996**

*Developed transformative community-based programs for youth in court-ordered treatment supervised by Florida Department of Corrections, working with underage felons to prevent incarceration, using art as a means of encouraging communication and engagement*

- Received recognition for Florida State Department of Juvenile Justice for outstanding results of new program for court-ordered juveniles and their families
- Worked directly with law enforcement and court officials to ensure compliance with court orders

---

**FINE ARTS EXHIBITIONS**


---

I'm a juried fine artist, and regularly exhibit in museums and fine art galleries around the nation. Recent exhibitions have been held in Agora Gallery in NYC, the Museum of Fine Arts at Florida State University and The Jubilee Museum in Columbus, Ohio. I work with multiple mediums, including oils and acrylics, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, photography, and filmmaking. This involves not only creating and framing the art, but also organizing the shows with active marketing and promotion to drive awareness and attendance. I also engage the local community and teach and demonstrate techniques when on exhibit.

**Selected Exhibitions and Juried Competitions:**

- Agora Gallery, NYC, juried competition
- Florida State University Museum of Fine Arts, Tallahassee, Florida, juried competition
- Jubilee Museum, Columbus, Ohio, juried competition
- Austin City Hall, Austin, Texas, juried competition
- Diocesan Fine Arts Council of Austin, Sacred Arts Exhibition, juried
- Texas State University, Celtic Spirit Worldwide, juried/prize winner
- Love and Peace, Episcopal Church National, juried
- Red Dot Sale, Women & Work, by invitation
- Benefit for Haiti, Studio2Gallery
- Jones Arthouse, 5x5 show, by invitation
- Austin Visual Arts Association 32<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Exhibition, juried
- From Pain to Grace, Studio2Gallery, juried
- Creature Feature for Williamson County Animal Shelter, juried
- Celebrating Sacred Art Exhibition, St. Edward's University
- Upstream Gallery, 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Judeo-Christian International Art exhibition, juried
- Austin City Hall, Zero Waste Initiative, exhibitor
- Austin Eastside Artists Tour, REAL Gallery, exhibitor
- Still Life Workshop, Lecturer, Tex-Arts Association
- One Breath Installation, Walsh Gallery, South Orange, NJ
- Pink Amor, Tiru Gallery
- WAR: Artists Respond, Dougherty Cultural Arts Center, Austin, TX
- Photography Award, Austin Community College, Permanent Collection for "Yes, Inside Out"
- Labyrinth Art Exhibition, organizer, curator, Texas State University
- Private Award for Short Script, Screenwriter, "Chrysalis"
- Residency through Texas State University, Florence, Italy
- Nudge Micro-digital Film Festival, Director, Art Director, Producer
- London, UK Research, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Romanticism