

# SCOPE

**FALL 2022**

## SCOPE

is a newsletter dedicated to keeping UTs community of art educators connected. The mission of the newsletter is to communicate the interests and accomplishments of current students, alumni, and faculty.

## EDITORS

Lindsay Edwards  
Pam Reyes  
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## FACULTY ADVISOR

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## News from the Art Education Program at the University of Texas at Austin

December 2022

Letter from the Editors:

We are so excited to finally bring back SCOPE since 2019! The last few years have come with many ups and downs. While we are beginning to return to a new normal it is important to still highlight the class of 2022 that were not featured in SCOPE during their time at UT Austin.

Zoë Fejeran is a talented artist and art educator that graduated in Spring 2022. She took the time to provide written reflection and share advice for our first year students. Thank you Zoë for your time and amazing thoughts.

Looking forward, this issue introduces the first and second year students in the MA Art Education Program. We are a diverse group from many locations brought together by the common goal of becoming better art educators.

Also included is an introduction to our amazing guest lecturers, Lisa Kastello and Pam Arnold.

Please enjoy this SCOPE issue, where we celebrate our past and introduce our exciting future.

Lindsay Edwards, Pam Reyes, and Arfa Khan

# FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

## LISA KASTELLO



## Healthy Teacher = Healthy Schools

I believe that transformation is sustainable when it comes from the inside out. Working alongside educational leaders at individual schools, as well as districts, to build supports/structures that alleviate stress and chronic over-work has been my passion pre-pandemic.

Healthy teachers have fewer absences and are less likely to leave the profession. Healthy teachers also have a profound impact on the well-being and educational success of our students.



Above: Fiber art by Lisa Castello



## PAM ARNOLD



## I am a proud Art Educator!

Teaching Art Education for over 30 years, PreK-12 grades in the public school systems has been my passion. An ever changing and creative career that was never dull. Art Education is always changing and making strides forward. Our knowledge in clay, print-making, painting, drawing, stop-motion animation, multi-medium design, art history, and sculpture will continue to evolve and it's great to see how the students apply their creative energy and creative thinking.

Mentoring and supervising 10+ student art teachers for The University of Texas kept me young and ready for new ideas.

The phrase "Those who can't... teach" is outrageous. It takes a special person to teach and I know that The University of Texas's Art Education program produces the best art teachers. Art teachers are creative, innovative, intelligent, mindful, flexible, and determined to keep art in schools.

As an art educator it has been important to be an active artist. Time is not always available during the active school year. However, the summer is packed with providing summer camps, workshops, and my own time to explore and create. Staying creative and curious is vital as an educator.

Professionally my involvement in teaching and leadership at Round Rock ISD and The Texas Art Educators Association has been energizing. I was selected Teacher of the Year at two schools in Round Rock ISD and The Elementary Art Teacher of the Year for the State of Texas through Texas Art Educators Association. This year I have been honored with the TAEA Distinguished Fellows Award.

The love of teaching art to students has been an honor and a privilege. The opportunity to teach at The University of Texas this fall has been the cherry on top.



Above: Painting by Pam Arnold



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: ZOË FEJERAN

Introduction from Co-Editor, Lindsay Edwards:

A major focus of this issue is to highlight alumni of the class of 2022 that completed the program during the SCOPE hiatus.

When I was a first-year student in the art education program, I got to know Zoë Fejeran as a fellow student and as my teaching assistant for a class. Dedicated and empathic, I always valued her viewpoint in discussions and her dedication to art education.

Her research was poignant and relevant in the field titled, "'Bold, Brave, & Essential: Investigating the Intersections of DEAI and Educational Programming at the Baltimore Museum of Art'".

We are grateful for her work at UT Austin and her future work in the field.

Thank you, Zoë, for taking the time to update us on the amazing things you are doing!



## What have you been up to since graduating?

After graduating from UT I moved back to Bellingham, Washington to start a job at my undergrad alma mater. I'm the Museum Educator at Western Washington University's Western Gallery & Outdoor Sculpture Collection. My day-to-day involves creating, scheduling, and implementing programming around our current exhibition (for fall quarter: the sculptures of Isamu Noguchi) and our outdoor Sculpture Collection. One example of programming is our "Perspectives Series" which hosts faculty from across campus to give interdisciplinary talks inspired by the current exhibition. I also host tours and supervise Museum Studies interns.

## What was your experience in the program?

UT's Art Education program provided the type of learning community that I had been missing in my previous studies. I had never been in a learning environment that was made up entirely of peers and mentors who wanted to talk about the possibilities of Art Education as much as I did. The community that I found through the program has 100% influenced my approach to art education— and my belief that art can be a wonderful connector across disciplines, lived experiences and perspectives.

A more literal answer to this was my teaching fellowship at the VAC. I understand that these fellowships are not available to everyone and feel privileged to have had the opportunity. My time at the VAC and working with Clare Donnelly prepared me for my current job in ways that being in the classroom couldn't!

## What advice do you have for incoming students?

Take advantage of the mentors that are available to you! Though your career goals may be different than the faculty & professionals that you'll be working with, the folks who help support the Art Ed program have so much knowledge and experience to share. Ask people to meet for coffee, or if they'll let you shadow them for a tour or teaching session. It's one of the best ways to learn and have agency over your own education.

Remember that this experience (grad school, finding a career, finding what drives you about art education) does not have to be linear. Also, imposter syndrome is SO REAL. Everyone is dealing with it, and everyone is faking it until they make it. Just try to tell yourself over and over again that you deserve to be here. Because you do! And you'll be great.

# STUDENT UPDATE



## Sadie Barlow

Hi, my name is Sadie Barlow! I am originally from Shreveport, Louisiana, and attended the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville for undergrad. I received a BFA in Art Education with a studio focus in painting and drawing. After graduating, I moved to San Antonio to teach, before deciding to pursue my Masters in Art Education at the University of Texas! As a first year graduate student, I am incredibly excited to have this opportunity to continue my education with such a great group of students and faculty, as well as getting to live in the amazing city of Austin!

## Alice Brandenburg

Hi, I'm Alice (she/her), a M.A. candidate studying Art Education on the Community Track here at the University of Texas at Austin! I have a background in teaching in K-12 schools and community organizations in Illinois and Texas. My research explores the interwoven relationship between arts education, youth summer camps, and traditional camp arts and crafts programming in the U.S. I am passionate about engagement and programming that celebrates the arts in diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible ways!



## Shea Braumuller

Originally from New York, Shea received a B.A. in Studio Art and Art History from Barnard College of Columbia University in 2016. Interested in making and creating from a young age, Shea credits the discipline and her art teachers as a crucial support system during adolescence. As a young girl, Shea also spent summers caring for individuals with special needs at Pine Tree Camp in Maine. This experience stoked her love for working with children, particularly those with learning differences.

In 2018, Shea earned her Master's in Autism and Developmental Disabilities at the University of Texas at Austin and became certified as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. She practiced as a therapist for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other developmental disabilities until 2021, when she decided to return to school to pursue Art Education. Currently earning her Master's in Art Education and TX EC-12 Art certification from the University of Texas at Austin, Shea's research focuses on teaching pre-service educators how to talk about sensitive topics and have difficult conversations in professional settings.



# STUDENT UPDATE

## Lindsay Edwards

Lindsay is a second year Art Education Graduate Student at the University of Texas at Austin. Born and raised in Austin, Texas, Lindsay earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin and worked in arts instruction around the Austin area. She is interested in Social Emotional Learning practices and curriculum in relation to the visual arts field. When not practicing or teaching art, she enjoys playing boardgames, adventuring, and spending time with her cats, Lily and Smudge.



## Neal Flynn

Neal (he/him) is an artist and graduate student in Art Education with a focus on museums and community-based programs. Born in Baltimore, MD, Neal graduated with a BA in Studio Art from the University of Maryland in 2014, and has been working in arts institutions in Maryland, Florida, New York, and most recently, Texas. When not engaging with art, he enjoys watching movies, skateboarding, playing with puppies, and traveling.

## Lorna Gaddis

Lorna Gaddis is currently in her second year working towards her Masters in Art Education at the University of Texas in Austin. She received her BFA in Fashion Design at Pratt Institute and is now focused on developing tools to introduce concepts of sustainable fashion to young learners. She has experience working as a gallery teacher at The Blanton Museum of Art and working in classrooms at the Art School at Laguna Gloria and looks forward to working in school and community settings. She one day dreams of having a farm that also functions as an art school and retreat center. In her spare time, she enjoys painting, sewing, reading, tending her garden, doing the crossword, and making elaborate meals with her partner.





# STUDENT UPDATE



## Alisse Guerra

Alisse Guerra is a second year MA candidate in the schools plus certification track. Originally from New Orleans, she completed her bachelor's degree in art history and painting at Louisiana State University. Alisse is looking forward to student teaching in the Spring of 2023 and is excited to work in the Austin metro area after graduation. In her free time, she loves gardening, taking long walks, and baking.

## Hope Harlow

Hope is a first year graduate student pursuing a M.A. in the Art Education schools track at the University of Texas at Austin where she obtained her undergraduate Studio Art degree in May 2022. They have always wanted to be an educator, and are extremely excited to finally work towards the study of education. Hope currently works as a TA for print classes at UT, and thoroughly enjoys working with students in learning the different methods of printmaking. As a printmaker herself, she hopes to one day bring some form of printmaking to her future classrooms. Hope plans to work with children and teens at underprivileged schools and inspire students to be their authentic self in and out of the classroom. In their free time, Hope enjoys reading, creating, watching shows with her sister, and cuddling her sweet cat Millie.



## Arianna Hernandez-Baptiste

Hi, I'm Arianna! I grew up in Harker Heights, TX and attended UMHB not too far away in Belton, where I got my BA in Studio Art (with a focus in Ceramics). For my Senior Exhibition I made a series of mugs with redesigned cartoon characters to look like me, to discuss the lack of representation in the media. I hope to continue looking for avenues in which different people can explore, and celebrate, themselves in different, exciting ways! After graduation I plan to work with nonprofits/community organizations, specifically those that work with the homeless, and maybe one day become a professor.

# STUDENT UPDATE



## Blair Kennington

Blair is a second-year graduate student in the Art Education program. Originally from Atlanta, GA. She received her B.F.A in art education from the University of Georgia (Go Dawgs). She then taught middle school art in her hometown of Atlanta for a couple years before moving to Austin! Blair is interested in inclusive curriculum development and plans to return to teaching after graduating from UT. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her pup Samson, going for runs, and exploring Austin's food scene!

## Arfa Khan

Arfa is a first year graduate student in Art Education on the schools plus certification track, after earning her BS in Arts and Entertainment Technologies at UT in 2022. She is interested in the idea of the art classroom as a safe space, as well as the history of art education in South Asia. In her free time, she enjoys drawing, nail art, and crochet.



## Alyssa Leleux

Alyssa Leleux is a current MA Art Education candidate in the Community track at the University of Texas at Austin and received a BFA in Visual Art Studies from UT Austin in May 2020. She primarily creates oil paintings, wood sculptures, and a variety of prints. She specifically has a love for serigraph printing. During her studies, she has developed a passion for projects geared toward community engagement, participation, art therapy, mindfulness, resilience, and the theme of memory. Alyssa gained experience in art education while working as a Family and Community Intern and as a Studio Art Intern at the Blanton Museum of Art as an undergrad. In 2018 Leleux ran and created a community and collaborative art project, *Mindful Weaving*, at the Blanton. She currently works as a Graduate TA at the Contemporary Austin in their Education department. She wishes to pursue a future working at an art museum creating free public art programs that allow all people the opportunity to learn and grow through viewing/making art.





# STUDENT UPDATE

## Rouqayya Majeed

Rouqayya Majeed is a Lebanese Fulbright '22-'24 Grantee who earned the scholarship for an MA in Art Education in the community track at the University of Texas at Austin. She has a BA in Arts and Interior Planning, a minor in Fine Arts, and she also studied MA in Urban Socio-Anthropology. Besides being an experienced glass mosaic artist, Rouqayya has a four years experience in art teaching for kids aged 4-10 years, and seniors. She has the goal of founding an arts forum, atelier and guesthouse for the public, which hosts mosaic, ceramic, and painting workshops for all age groups.



## Zuhura McAdoo

Zuhura McAdoo is a first-year Masters of Art Education student at the University of Texas at Austin. She was awarded the prestigious University of Texas at Austin Diversity Recruitment Fellowship. Previously, McAdoo graduated cum laude from her undergraduate Howard University in Washington, D.C with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Community Development and a minor in Art History. She curates live music events and art showcases/exhibitions such as the Black Venus virtual art exhibition and Houses of Luv (BIPOC and Queer concert series).

## Jasmine Meyer

Growing up and going to art school in the Midwest, though entertaining and worthwhile, made me eager to explore the world. Luckily, I was able to teach English in Japan for two years and while doing so, I learned that I wanted to be a teacher. The experiences I had in Japan and prior led me to realize that I want to help guide students to be whatever they dream of being, whether that is an artist or just more comfortable with themselves and skills. Art teaches lessons of grit, problem solving, and open-mindedness that is vital to being successful and confident leaders in a globalized world. Once I earn my teacher certification, I hope to create an art classroom and curriculum that is anti-racist, multicultural, and inclusive of all my future students.





# STUDENT UPDATE



## Pam Reyes

Pam is an artist, musician and art educator. She is a first year graduate student pursuing her M.A. in Art Education at The University of Texas at Austin. Pam has 6 years of experience teaching in museum and community settings including The Noguchi Museum, The New Museum, and Socrates Sculpture Park in New York City. Pam has also taught as the sole art teacher in a private K-8 school in Austin, TX. One of her favorite pastimes is writing songs on long walks with her two rescue dogs.

## Ryene Sanders

Hi all! My name is Ryene (she/her), and I'm a M.A candidate in Art Education with a focus on community-based programs and museums. I received my B.A in Art History from the University of North Texas in 2020, and have worked as an art educator in various museums and galleries. I am passionate about the relationship between art and community, creating more diverse and equitable spaces and rethinking museum spaces. When I am not engaging with art, I enjoy baking goodies, reading and taking care of my (many) houseplants.



## Leslie Tang

Leslie is a first year graduate student pursuing a M.A. in Art Education in the Schools Track at the University of Texas at Austin. She obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Texas at Austin. She taught the visual arts at a high school in Plano, TX. Her hobbies are creating art, reading books, and playing video games.

# TAEA REFLECTIONS



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Attending TAEA had us all talking about how much we love what we are doing and the path that we each have chosen for ourselves. We got the chance to go to workshops on various topics, like special ed in the art classroom, the therapeutic properties of art, implementing empowering children's books in art lessons, resilience in different art settings (led by our very own Dr. Heise, Alisse Guerra, and alumna Olivia Spiers), and more. The whole experience also helped me realize that I shouldn't be afraid to talk to and make connections with other art educators!

—Arfa Khan

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Seeing the connection between student and professor continue past graduation. I loved seeing Dr. Heise, Olivia Spiers, and Alisse Guerra collaborate on this presentation. Their presentation showed breadth in the application of trauma-informed and resilience-based art education. Olivia showed application in museums, Dr. Heise's in multiple art education settings, and Alisse in future classroom settings. I am so grateful and proud that these wonderful women are in the field doing amazing things, and I hope I can collaborate with them in the future.

—Lindsay Edwards

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# TAEA REFLECTIONS



Even though McAllen is a long drive from Austin, I needed to attend the 2022 TAEA conference because, as a co-presenter, I couldn't miss the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Committee's first time presenting! Presenting with a group really helped with public speaking nerves and working through some beginner mistakes. For instance, I didn't have a backup plan in case the venue didn't provide a projector; to my surprise the venue ran out or didn't have any. Last year's conference in Round Rock, which was my first TAEA conference, was totally different when it came to equipment, venue, and even organization, so always be prepared! Even though attendance was low for the EDI Committee's presentations, it was still an enjoyable time being able to share data from the TAEA member survey and EDI strategies and resources for the classroom.

As for the rest of the conference, I enjoyed learning from passionate professionals about social justice art education, cultural identity art activities, and TAB strategies for primary and secondary classrooms. It was motivating to see people committed to the pedagogies and strategies I want to focus on as an art educator. Especially while being vulnerable enough to let us know that it took time and there were mistakes—a lot of mistakes, trial and error, and perseverance. Overall, that is my greatest take away from the conference this year: don't give up, find your solution, and keep getting better.

—Jasmine Meyer



**Jasmine Meyer is a master's student with a focus on mixed race experiences. She hopes to present her research one day at TAEA, NAEA, and beyond.**



Left to Right: Alisse Guerra, Donalyn Heise, Olivia Spiers

TAEA EDI Group: Jasmine Mendez Top Row Fourth from the Left.