
SEJAL PATEL

Waukesha, WI 53189 ♦ 3155726640 ♦ sejpatel76@gmail.com

VISUAL ARTS EDUCATOR

Experienced Digital Media Art educator with over two decades of experience in developing and implementing dynamic curricula across range of new media platforms. Proficient in digital photography, video production, graphic design, and maker tools, etc, adept at nurturing student curiosity and interest by keeping up with the evolving technology and innovation trends.

SKILLS

- Digital Media Arts Curriculum Development
- Integration of Technology and Innovation Tools
- Project-Based Interdisciplinary Collaborations
- Visual & Media Literacy Skills
- Diversity Inclusion, Equity, and Belonging (DEIB) Integration
- Student-Centered Classroom Design and Management
- Digital Art Studio Design and Upgrades
- Faculty Mentorship and Coaching
- Design Tools: Adobe Suite, Figma, Maker Space Tools, etc.

TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

GRAPHIC DESIGN INSTRUCTOR, 09/2023 - 12/2023

Global Online Academy – Remote

- **Delivered comprehensive graphic design curriculum** emphasizing design thinking and creative problem-solving techniques with a focus on real-world applications.
- **Utilized variety of digital tools and visual presentation skills** to effectively showcase student learning outcomes.
- Fostered active student engagement through peer discussions and feedback, **promoting positive open communication and collaboration within asynchronous learning environment.**
- **Implemented diverse assessment practices to provide weekly competency-based feedback** and conducted one-on-one student check-ins to track progress and address individual needs.
- **Explored Ai integration to personalize student feedback and empower students in research and inquiry-based activities.**

DIGITAL MEDIA ART TEACHER/ LEADERSHIP, 09/2011 - 09/2022

Beaver Country Day School – Chestnut Hill, MA

- **Developed and implemented student-centered digital photography, video production, and range of digital arts curricula** consisting of graphic design, animation, and integration of maker tools for project-based learning and innovation.
- **Curated and coordinated student lead art exhibits and presentation of work**, showcasing a visual demonstration of work within school gallery and hallways uniting school community.
- **Founded and organized successful Annual Beaver Film Festival**, bringing together lower and upper school community with a premiere screening of student made and curated short films made in and outside of school.
- **Ensured differentiation in instruction** by providing accommodations for a diverse student body of 180+ annually.
- **Maintained digital photo/video studio and darkroom**, ensuring efficient organization and updates of tools and technology within budget constraints.
- **Spearheaded design and launch of Instructional Design Coaching Program**, guiding onboarding process and support for over 25+ new teachers a year in developing effective teaching and practices in alignment with school mission and culture.
- **Demonstrated leadership as Interim Visual Art Department Head and 9th Grade Dean, and lead teacher**, collaborating with administrative teams to shape faculty development initiatives emphasizing visual media, tech integration, inter-disciplinary collaborations and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) practices within curriculums.
- **Cultivated lasting relationships with families** through sharing student success stories and collaborative partnerships with Admissions, Philanthropy and Engagement, and Marketing Departments.

FACULTY OF ART EDUCATION, 06/2015 - 08/2018

Massachusetts College Of Art And Design – Boston, MA

- **Facilitating art education best practices and teaching portfolio preparation for 15 graduate-level students** focusing on integrating new media technologies into teaching practices and curriculum.
- **Guided hands-on research and development of effective online teacher tools and resources** consisting of an intuitive user friendly teacher website that provides differentiated learning resources for learners.
- **Provided constructive feedback on Art Teacher Portfolios** preparations and presentations.

OTHER AFFILIATED EXPERIENCE

PROGRAM COORDINATOR, 10/2023 to Current

Elevate K-21, Hybrid

- **Coordinate program logistics to ensure smooth launch, operation of 10 live online streaming**

programs in Milwaukee Public School District.

- **Train and coach 28 classroom teachers, ensuring consistency in program objectives and impact.**
- Employ innovative classroom management strategies and incentive systems to enhance student performance.
- Prioritize consistent support for teachers to boost confidence and motivation in their roles.
- Organize and maintain accurate weekly program data for effective measurement of success.
- Facilitated connections with external partners for smooth delivery of online education programs.

UI/ UX DESIGN CONSULTANT, 07/2023 - 10/2023

Remote

- **Collaborated with EdTech and FinTech startups to address usability problems in their diverse range of web-based**
- **products, achieving 70-100% user satisfaction on innovative design solutions and strategies.**
- Employed diverse design thinking research methods leveraging industry based design tools like Figma and Adobe Suite etc.
- Analyzed user data and market trends to enhance the aesthetics and functionality of apps and websites.
- Enhanced user engagement and satisfaction with improved product design, suppressing initial benchmarks.
- Managed product teams to ensure the timely completion of tasks and projects.

BEST PRACTICE PRESENTATIONS

National Arts Education Association (NAEA) Conference - Collaborative Best practice Presentations:

- Coding in the Visual Arts Classroom, New Orleans, LA, 2015
- Handmade Hardwired, San Diego, CA, 2014
- Using Popular Images in the Classroom, Fort Worth, TX, 2011

National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE) Conference, Providence, RI - March 2019

- Led a workshop: Teens Make 1min Videos

Society for Photographic Education (SPE) Conference, Philadelphia, PA - March 2016

- Reviewed Photography Portfolios

International Society for Technology In Education (ISTE) Conference, Atlanta, GA - March 2014

- Presented: Anatomy of the Wired Classroom

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Member of Board of Directors Cambridge, MA - Community Art Center, Inc, June 2008 - 2021

- Spearheaded the search for the Executive Director hire, 2020
- Served as a President (2014-2015) and Clerk (2017-2021) of the Board of Directors
- Influenced structural changes and protocols serving on the Personnel Development Committee
- Designed and executed annual events as an active member of the Development Committee
- Contributed to programmatic design and curriculum for digital media arts after school programs
- Attended monthly meetings and contributed to the program outreach

EDUCATION

UX Career Accelerator Program: UX Design, 06/2023

Beginex - New York, NY

Google UX Design Certification: 03/2023

Google - Coursera

Master of Arts: Photography, 06/2003

Syracuse University - Syracuse, NY

Bachelor of Arts: Art Education, 06/2000

Massachusetts College Of Art - Boston, MA