

SEJAL PATEL

Educator with 20 years' experience teaching photography, video, and digital art using innovative tools and methods. The goal is to increase student motivation and expand the future of teaching and learning interactions with improved Learning Management Systems (LMS).

EXPERIENCE

Beaver Country Day School, Chestnut Hill MA

Digital Media Art Teacher, September 2011 - 2022

- Instructed all levels of analog and digital photography, video production, digital art, and courses
- Designed and implemented a student-centered and interdisciplinary curriculum with an emphasis on creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking.
- Mentored new teachers in expanding their expertise to enhance classroom plans, assessment practices, and understanding of school culture as an Instructional Design Coach.
- Supported the implementation of Visual and Media Literacy in the classroom with resources and workshops.
- Advised students on the production of the Annual Beaver Film Festival as the faculty advisor.

Visual Arts Department Chair, September 2014 - 2015

- Improved the teaching, learning, and school culture by being an active voice in the school community and in collaboration with other department chairs and school administration.
- Managed curricular, instructional, organizational, professional growth and budget-related matters (40K per year) for the Visual Art department.

Massachusetts College of Art And Design, Boston, MA

Adjunct Faculty, Summer 2015 - 2018

- Developed and taught a graduate-level teacher preparation course titled "Teaching in New Media," which emphasized the integration of technology and digital tools to engage 21st century learners.
- Contributed insight and constructive feedback as a Portfolio Reviewer for Art Education graduates.

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CERTIFICATION

Google UX Design Professional Certification, 2022

Coursera

Art Education Certification for Visual Art K-12, 2001

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Education, MA

EDUCATION

Masters in Fine Arts Photography, 2003-2006

Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY

Bachelors of Fine Arts Education, 2000-2003

Massachusetts College of Art,
Boston, MA

Home Studio Animation, 2020

Massachusetts College of Art,
Boston, MA

Visible Learning, 2019

Harvard Graduate School of Education,
Cambridge, MA

Coding Dynamic Experiences, 2015

Massachusetts College of Art,
Boston, MA

New England Institute of Art (NEIA), Brookline, MA
Assistant Professor, Photography, September, 2007 - 2010

- Taught courses in photography, studio lighting, conceptual photography, and performance art, exposing students to the practices of visual artists while developing industry-based photography skills.
- Faculty advisor for Campus Gallery 303, advising students on logistics, budget, and content decisions.

The Community Art Center, January 2006 - 2008
Teen Media Program Director, Cambridge, MA

- Devised and implemented photography and video curriculum for the Teen Media Program, giving a revolving group of 10-20 low-income teens a safe space to explore their creative voices.
- Managed program budget (\$100K) and supervised media and youth professionals to teach the after school program.

PRESENTATIONS

National Education Conference (NAEA)

Collaborative Presentations on Best Practice in Teaching

- 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

Media Literacy Regional Conference, Providence, RI
Presented a workshop: Teens Make 1min Videos, March 2019

Society for Photographic Education Conference (SPE),

Philadelphia, PA - Portfolio Reviewer at the 47th Annual Conference, March, 2016

International Society for Technology In Education (ISTE)

Atlanta, GA - Collaborative Presentation: Anatomy of the Wired Classroom, March, 2014

SKILLS

Teaching Tools

- DSLR camera
- Adobe Photoshop & Premiere Pro
- Wix Website Design
- Figma
- Stop Motion Pro
- OnShape
- Canvas LMS
- Google Workplace
- Design Thinking
- Curriculum Development
- Instructional Design

Skills

- Communication, Collaboration, Organization, Critical Thinking, Constructive Feedback

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

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

- Led a Search Committee for Executive Director hire, 2020
- Served as the President (2014-2015) and Clerk (2017-2021) of the Board of Directors
- Served on the Personnel and Development Committee