

ART DEPARTMENT

GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

FALL 2022
SPRING 2023



Hello, Alumni and Friends of the Gonzaga Art Department.

It has been another eventful year of positive and dynamic change for art students and faculty alike. The first B.F.A. students of the department graduated in May 2023, and the Art Club has been enthusiastically revived due to the hard work and determination of the Club's co-presidents, senior Beca Rivas Bach Quintanilla and sophomore Audrey Hart. Thanks, Beca and Audrey! Two new faculty recently joined the department, Assistant Professor of Painting Jennifer Seo and Adjunct Instructor Houston Fryer. You can read more about them in the "Faculty News" section of this newsletter and on the [Art Dept. Website](#). We also have a new Art Dept. Chair, Professor of Ceramics Mat Rude, who was recently promoted to full professor. (Congrats, Mat!) But we also give abundant thanks to Professor Rob Donnelly from the History Dept. for shepherding the department through the 2022-23 academic year. The *Gonzaga University Art Department Faculty Exhibition* opened earlier this month at the Jundt Art Museum and features the work of 10 of our faculty. If you find yourself in the Spokane area between now and May 11, please be sure to stop by to see this impressive show. And please feel free to reach out to us throughout the year. We always look forward to hearing from you. Be well!

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ART DEPT. HIGHLIGHTS

Members of the Art Department organized or hosted several exhibits at the Gonzaga University Urban Arts Center (GUUAC) during the last 18 months. In addition to a fall 2022 exhibit of Mexican masks, the GUUAC was also the venue for the November 2022 exhibit *Land Acknowledgement*, curated by artist **Charlene Teters** (Spokane Tribe) and coordinated by Art Dept. faculty member **Lena Lopez Schindler**. *Land Acknowledgement* featured the work of 17 contemporary Native American artists. A panel discussion on campus with Teters and some of the exhibiting artists was a programming highlight of this show.

The GUUAC had a packed schedule of exhibitions in spring 2023, including the *Regional Student Print Invitational*. It was one of several events that took place around the city as part of the fifth annual *Spokane Print Fest*. The print invitational featured works on paper using traditional and experimental printmaking methods by students from Gonzaga University, University of Idaho, Washington State University, Whitworth University, Boise State University, University of Puget Sound, University of Montana, North Idaho College, and Spokane Falls Community College. The annual regional art faculty show and the *Gonzaga Senior Art Exhibit* rounded out the spring 2023 schedule.

This past fall, **Tobe Harvey** curated a watercolor invitational show featuring work by Pacific Northwest artists. An exhibition featuring work by students from area colleges and universities will be at the GUUAC during the month of February 2024. We anticipate another excellent *Gonzaga Senior Art Exhibition* in spring 2024.

GU alumna **Lu Auz** (2003) and Director of Education at the Metal Museum in Memphis, Tennessee, returned to campus last year and delivered an illuminating talk, “Collaborative Portraiture: A Feminist Disability Studies Approach to the Work of **Riva Lehrer** and **Tanya Raabe-Webber**,” as a Kreielsheimer Visiting Artist. Students thoroughly enjoyed Lu’s talk and the chance to meet a former student of the art program.

In October 2023 the Ceramics program welcomed **Shea Burke** and **Austin Riddle**, two resident artists from the Archie Bray Foundation, as Kreielsheimer Visiting Artists. Shea and Austin led free workshops and delivered talks on campus as part of their visit.

Current painting student **Finley Knellhorne** recently was awarded the Spokane Valley Art Association Scholarship of \$1,000. Way to go, Finley!



FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

After joining the art faculty at Gonzaga in fall 2023, **Houston Fryer** had his work included in two group exhibitions - *Landscapes: Peculiar Interpretations* at Midwest Nice in Aberdeen, South Dakota and *Combined Talents: Southern Futurisms* at the Museum of Fine Art at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida. In January 2024, Houston had a solo exhibition of his work at College of the Sequoias in Visalia, CA. This year, Houston joins the ArtsWA's Community Investment's Grant team and will be included in the juried group exhibition WAR! at the Hudson Valley MoCA in Peekskill, NY.

During the fall semester, Assistant Professor **Reinaldo Gil Zambrano** organized the Rocky Mountain Printmaking Alliance Symposium Biennial, which took place at various locations in Spokane and at Gonzaga. The event hosted 150 participants from around the US. He also contributed to the "This is East Central" interactive mural project at the Carl Maxey Center and participated in seven group exhibitions in cities such as Philadelphia, Chicago, El Paso and Los Angeles. He offered a lecture at the National Museum of Mexican art in Chicago during the Annual Grabadolandia and received a grant from Alfred University to produce a documentary in 2024 about Oaxaca printmaking. Additionally, he received an Artist Trust Greg Kucera & Larry Yucom \$10,000 fellowship for excellence in the arts. Reinaldo will have a solo exhibition, *Pulling Roots*, at the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, February – April 2024, and will be a visiting artist at the "Maldita Estampa" print studio in Barcelona, Spain, offering a workshop, lecture and solo exhibition. He continues to co-host the Hello Print Friend podcast, which now has over 300 episodes in

English & Spanish, over 900,000 downloads and 100,000 followers on IG.

During summer 2023, **Tobe Harvey** created a large temporary painting in the Arcade Gallery at the Jundt Art Museum for the *Drawn to the Wall VIII* event. Last fall, he curated the 2023 *Regional Watercolor Invitational Exhibition* at the Gonzaga University Urban Arts Center. Tobe continues to exhibit work as a member of Saranac Art Projects. He is a participant in the *Gonzaga University Art Department Faculty Exhibition* currently on display at the Jundt Art Museum.

Matt McCormick was promoted to associate professor in 2022.

Last July, **Harry Mestyanek** displayed recent ceramic artworks at the Saranac Art Projects Gallery in downtown Spokane. Harry also displayed works in Trackside Gallery's annual *Cup of Joy Invitational Show* during the entire month of December, also in downtown Spokane. He is a participant in the *Gonzaga University Art Department Faculty Exhibition*. Harry is in his second year as the Gonzaga University Art Department Technician.

Professor **Shalon Parker** recently published her essay "Blackness, Beauty and Desirability" in the exhibition catalog *Consuelo Kanaga: Catch the Spirit* (Brooklyn Museum, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and Fundación MAPFRE, 2024). The catalog accompanies a traveling exhibition of photographs by the twentieth-century American photographer Consuelo Kanaga that will travel to museums in Spain and the US before making its final stop at the Brooklyn Museum.

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS CONTINUED

Mat Rude was promoted to Full Professor this last year and became chair of the art department in 2023. He also participated in three exhibitions this past fall: *Practice Is the Point*, Fargo Museum of Art, Fargo, ND; *Cup of Joy Invitational*, Trackside Gallery, Spokane, WA; and 2023 *Yunomi Invitational*, Akar Gallery, Iowa City, IA.

Jennifer Seo joined the Art Department as Assistant Professor of Painting in Fall 2023. Since joining Gonzaga, her solo exhibitions have included *Paperworks* at the Fielding

Wright Art Center Gallery at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi and *Bab Geuleus* at Box 13 ArtSpace in Houston, Texas. Her work was included in eight group exhibitions nationally and received an Honorable Mention Award from *Selfhood* at Strata Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 2024, Jennifer will serve as a panelist for ArtsWA's Community Investment's (CI) Grant team for the Washington State Arts Commission.

ALUMNI NEWS

Preston M. Smith (2001)

Preston created over 100 new original artworks this year and his work was selected to take part in the prestigious Art in Embassies program where two of his paintings currently hang in the US Embassy in Cameroon. He helped jury and curate eight exhibitions at ShockBoxx Gallery in LA.

His podcast, The Living Artist, is moving into its fifth season and hit #1 in the Audible Blog Top Art Podcasts list! He interviewed well-known artists and curators, such as Warwick Saint and Kelly Huang. Two of his largest paintings were sold to collectors through ArtSpace Warehouse and Saatchi Art.

Fahren (Carlson) Norton (2010)

Fahren is a part-time EMT, landscaper, mom of two, and started her pottery business in 2020. The pandemic was not the catalyst, but it was an accelerant into doing this. She lives in Silverthorne, CO and built a small ceramics studio in her basement. She sells her work at local art/farmers markets and online. In addition to ceramics work, she received a grant to paint a mural in her community. Her advice to students of the art department: Take a couple of business classes! This has been the most challenging and least intuitive part of making art professionally. To see some of her work: [Montanepottery.com](https://montanepottery.com)

Abigail McCallum (2012)

Abigail continues to paint and currently has a solo exhibition in Los Angeles at the MEY Gallery, January 9-February 13.

<https://www.abigailmccallum.com/>

<https://www.meygallery.com/abigail-mccallumoverview-1>

Amelia Tiedemann (2013)

Amelia recently celebrated her fifth year of working for Harkla as the Lead Brand Manager /Graphic Designer. Harkla was founded in 2015 by Amelia's husband, Casey Ames (GU Class of 2013). They specialize in creating sensory products for those with special needs and sensory challenges. Graphic design was a career pivot for Amelia since majoring in Math and minoring in Art. Amelia writes, "I utilize my art skills and talents every day in a way that is making a large impact in the sensory space. I also paint acrylic landscapes in my free time, when I'm not caring for or chasing around my two-year-old toddler."

Hannah Souers (2016)

Hannah is currently in her fourth year living and working at a K-12 international school in Tokyo, Japan. Excitingly this year, she accepted the position of Fine Arts Coordinator. She works with coordinators from fifteen other international schools in the Kanto Plain to organize fine arts events like a spring public gallery of student work, numerous choral and instrumental concerts, two annual theatre performances

and a series of speech and debate tournaments. Hannah says, "I love that I get to encourage children and teenagers from all over the world to explore the arts!"

Lisa Sekulich Imamura

Lisa taught visual art at Flowing Wells High School in Tucson, Arizona for seven years and recently left to teach internationally. She is currently the American Internationals School's IB, high school, and middle school visual arts teacher in Kingston, Jamaica. Lisa writes, "I absolutely love teaching art and my art practice is continually expanded by my teaching career. Teaching internationally has been an incredible opportunity for me and my family and I hope to continue for the foreseeable future."

**Aimee Graham
(formerly Aimee Wilson)**

Since graduating from Gonzaga, Aimee continued her education by obtaining her MFA from the University of Idaho. Since then, she has learned how to build websites, brands, and much more. She is currently the Director of Digital Marketing for a small SaaS company in the EdTech Space called Education Advanced. She is also a volunteer coach for a group of fourth and fifth graders through the YMCA and has coached at various levels for 20 plus years. She lives with her husband and two daughters near Olympia, WA.

SENIOR ART AWARD

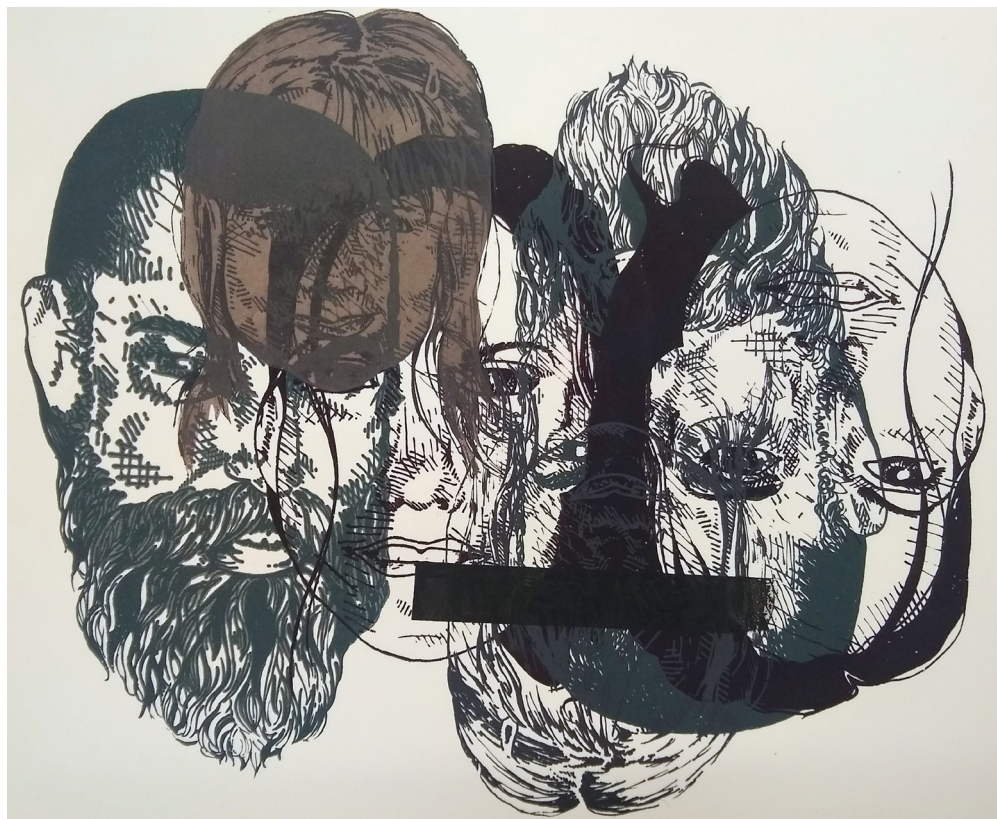
The *Senior Art Award* recipient for 2023 was Bri Covert. Bri graduated from GU with a B.A. in English and a B.F.A. in Art. She now teaches art in the juvenile detention centers in Spokane and Medical Lake and works the rest of the time teaching English in Spokane's SAC School. She is currently studying for her Masters of Initial Teaching at GU and will graduate (again from GU!) in 2024. Bri has been excited to settle down in Spokane and is looking forward to deepening her roots as an artist in the area. You can look her up on Instagram @bri.covert.art to see her most current work, including some murals around the city.



2023 Senior Art Award Recipient
Bri Covert



Bri Covert, Mother Hunger, 2023



Bri Covert, Eye to Eye, 2022

SENIOR SHOWCASE

The annual Senior Art Exhibit at the GUUAC featured the work of seven graduating seniors. Four of those students coordinated and installed their own separate B.F.A. solo or

two-person shows at various venues in Spokane during the 2022-23 academic year. Check out a few of the posters for their B.F.A. shows.



A young visitor enjoying the Senior Art Exhibition!

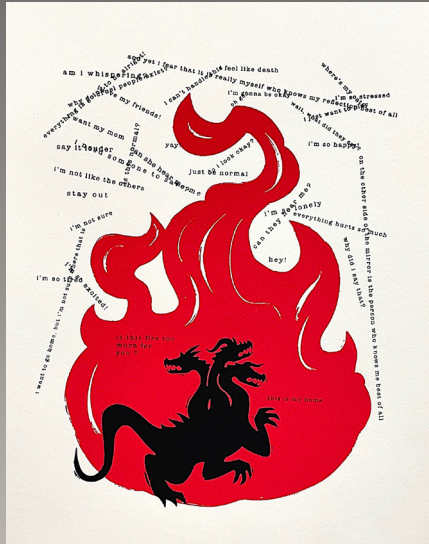


Limerence

3/10 — 3/24

A solo exhibition that traverses the subconscious mind surrounding love. Silkscreen prints by emerging artist Ashley Castleman will be on display.

Ashley will be giving an artist talk on Friday, March 10th about the body of work. The artist will be available for questions afterward.



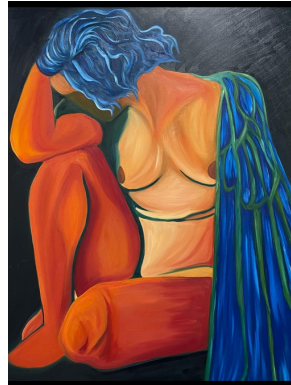
Artist Talk:
March 10th at 10-11am

Spokane Kitty Cantina
6704 N Nevada St # 1, Spokane, WA 99208

Hours:
Mon – Fri 7:00am – 5:00pm
Sat + Sun 8:00am – 5:00pm

EXPLORING AND REFLECTING ON IDENTITY

FEATURING HAYLEY NIGRELLE AND OPEILA DUNCAN



DUNCAN, "LINGERING" 2022



NIGRELLE, "PROJETA LES NIÑOS DE GUATEMALA" 2023

OPENING:
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST
-
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

ARTIST GALLERY SIT:
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD
FROM 2:30 TO 4:30 PM

ARTIST TALK:
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH
FROM 3:00 TO 4:00 PM

Shadle Park Library Art Exhibit

2111 W WELLESLEY AVE, SPOKANE, WA 99205

Hayley will be presenting her series "Projeta a Todos Los Niños" and Opeila will be showing pieces from her last year as a Gonzaga student.

Friday, February 3rd the artists will be present to answer questions about their work. A formal artist talk will be held on Wednesday, February 8th.

Visiting Hours:

Monday - Thursday	9:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday - Saturday	10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday	12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

A Time For Everything
FEATURING *Emilie Weaver*
When: Friday, April 14th, 5:30-7pm
Where: Mad Co. Labs Studios
ARTIST TALK: 6PM

