

Amy O'Neill Houck

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Teaching

Teaching Artist Residencies

Harborview Elementary School, Juneau, Alaska, December 2013. Wet felting with approx. 200 students, grades 1-5. Students created wet-felted landscapes and studied wool science while learning basic art concepts needed to create landscape. Finished pieces were embellished with embroidery and beads and displayed in school commons. Teacher workshop offered in conjunction with residency.

Montessori Borealis, Juneau, Alaska, October - December 2014. AMP (Grade 7-8) classroom. A quarter-long survey of fiber arts. Students met weekly to explore wet felting, needle felting, and spinning.

Juneau Douglas High School, Juneau, Alaska, January 2015. "Fire and Fiber Break the Ice." This residency with 3 high school ceramics classes explored communication and relationships using fiber and ceramic as metaphor. Students created wet-felted wearables with hand-made ceramic beads, and wrote reflections on their work. Residency culminated in a student art show at the Juneau Arts and Culture Center. Teacher workshop offered in conjunction with residency.

Glacier Valley Elementary School, Juneau, Alaska, October-November 2015. "Straw into Gold. The Science and Art of Spinning a Yarn." 185 Students grades 3-5. Students built turkish-style spindles, and learned the basics of spinning yarn by hand. Students studied quantitative, scientific, literary, and historical tie-ins to spinning and wool. Teacher workshop offered in December 2015.

Juneau Youth Services, Montana Creek, January - March 2016. "The Hook and I - Crochet for Busy Minds and Eager Hands." Fiber artists have learned through research and experience that rather than being a distraction, having something to do with your hands--like crochet--can make you a better, more attentive listener. Fiber arts engage the left and right hemispheres of the brain in exciting ways: Students think geometrically as they measure and calculate how much yarn it takes to make a finished item--they can get creative with design incorporating color, shape, and texture. In Amy's residency at Montana creek, she helped students develop a service project wherein they can donate finished items to those in need.

Instructor, Juneau Fine Arts Camp - June 2013, and June 2014, Juneau, AK. Taught five knitting and ukulele classes per day to students of all levels aged 5-11.

Writing Instructor - 49 Writers, Anchorage, AK (Classes taught in Juneau, AK) 2012-2013. Taught creative writing classes to adults students in Juneau, AK. Created curriculum and class materials and marketing materials for classes. Helped to promote classes online and in Juneau.

Employment

2005 - Present

Knit and Crochet Designer, Writer, and Fiber Artist - Author of *Knits for Bears to Wear*, Random House, 2008, *The Color Book of Felted Crochet*, Creative Homeowner, 2008, and *Crochet for Bears to Wear*, Random House, 2009. Former editor of *Inside Crochet* magazine. Author of numerous articles on the history and technique of knitting and crochet. Creator of over 100 knit and crochet designs and patterns. Author of the popular

craft blog, The Hook and I. Columnist in Knitty magazine. Contributor to *The Juneau Empire*, *The Capital City Weekly*, and *The Cordova Times*. Contributor to the 49 Writers Blog.

2016-Present

Director of Marketing and Engagement, Perseverance Theatre - Develop and execute marketing strategy for statewide professional theatre. Coordinate subscription and single ticket marketing effort. Create and deploy social media marketing plan with marketing team. Direct outreach coordinators and create outreach programs in Juneau and Anchorage to bring contextual events and opportunities to communities, connecting them to the plays and artists involved in productions.

2014-2016, Juneau, AK

Director, Juneau Fine Arts Camp - Create camp curriculum and schedule, hire teaching artists and teacher's assistants, manage logistics, budget, grant support, create camp publicity materials, run marketing for Juneau Fine Arts Camp.

2013-2016, Juneau, AK

Outreach and Development Associate, Perseverance Theatre - Develop business partner relationships and secure sponsorships, advertising sales. Support grant writing and individual giving campaigns. Manage outreach including public relations and event planning; work with visiting artists to create community engagement opportunities.

2012-2013, Juneau, AK

Artistic Assistant, Perseverance Theatre - Planned and promoted events and play readings. Coordinated auditions and casting processes, issued press releases and flyers.

2013, Cordova, AK

Project Manager, Writer, Prince William Sound Visitor's Guide - Managed production, budgeting, ad sales, distribution, writing, and editing for the 2013 edition of the Guide. Worked with designer, web producer, printer and other team members to create and promote this essential marketing tool for Prince William Sound and Cordova.

1996-2006, Seattle, WA

Director, In Plain Sight Media - Owned and managed Internet development business. Created and managed Web solutions for various clients. Assembled and managed remote teams of designers, programmers, and writers. Developed and edited content for clients. Promoted web sites with innovative marketing techniques. Designed and implemented social marketing plans. Clients included Decent Exposures, Microsoft Corporation, Harrison Hospital, The Anywear Shoe Company.

Education

University of Alaska, Anchorage, MFA in creative nonfiction.

Partners in Education Teaching Artist Academy, 2012 - Organized by the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council, Juneau-Douglas School District, and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Eligible as a graduate of the program to work as a teaching artist in Juneau schools.

Connecticut College, New London, CT, BA.

Major, Self-designed: *Semiotics: The Language of Performance and the Performance of Language*

Honors: *Graduated with Honors with Distinction in the Major Field.*

Recipient of Center for International Studies and the Liberal Arts Certificate.

Pro Bono Experience

2014-Present

Treasurer, 49 Writers Board

Support the operations of the statewide writing organization, 49 Writers, through efforts in Juneau and online. Help coordinate events, support marketing, and fundraising, as well as serving as treasurer.

2009-2011, Cordova, AK

Board Member, Cordova Arts Council

Provided organizational support for local arts organization bringing out-of-town artists to perform and provide outreach in Cordova schools. Promoted events within the community, helped to organize and produce events such as Wearable Art.

2009-2011, Cordova, AK

Board Member, Cordova 4-H Music Camp

Provided organizational support throughout the year, technical assistance with web design and Facebook pages, on-the-ground help with running of camp.