

# ROBERTA SUSAN BENNETT

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## EDUCATION

### Doctorate of Philosophy Student in Art Education

Syracuse University (August 2014 – May 2015)

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (January 2012 – August 2013)

### Master of Arts in Art Education

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (August 2010 – December 2011)

### Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education & Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting

University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (August 2003 – December 2007)

## UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Instructor Fall 2014

ART 103 Essentials of Art | Cornell University Prison Education Project

Introductory art course. Employs techniques of artists & art teachers. Topics include basic design, color theory, elements of composition, various drawing & painting techniques. Student's interests & talents are directed toward individuated final projects.

### Instructor Spring 2012 & Spring 2013

ARTS 250 Writing with Video | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Advanced composition course wherein students explore creative inquiry, self-reflection, social engagement, & media production, critical writing & analysis to communicate with image production effectively. Directed writings, in concert with video production projects, allow students to experience an integrated process of thinking, creating, & problem-solving.

### Co-Instructor Fall 2012– Spring 2013

ARTE 301 Early Field Art Teaching | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Developed & maintained relationships with rural area schools. Placed pre-service student teachers in public school classrooms for weekly art instruction.

### Teaching Assistant Fall 2012

ARTF 101 Contemporary Issues in Art | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Exposes first year students to contemporary issues & disciplines in the visual arts. Course requirements include keeping of a journal, writing a paper & attending lectures, field trips, & visiting artist presentations. TA responsibilities include helping students identify appropriate paper topics, keeping attendance & grading.

### Instructor Fall 2011– Spring 2012

ART 202 Art in the Elementary Grades | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Taught  $\frac{3}{4}$  basic studio &  $\frac{1}{4}$  art educational theory to pre-service elementary education teachers. Content & execution of final project was democratically determined & raffled off with proceeds benefiting local cause.

**Teaching Assistant** Fall 2010– Spring 2011

ARTE 201 Saturday Art School | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Mentored pre-service art educators. Worked with students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades.

Collaborated with local artists. Created net art, 2-second plays, musical instruments, site-specific installations, and performances.

## K-12 TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Visual Arts Certified, K-12

Illinois State Board of Education, Certificate Number 1949321

**Art Teacher** August 2017-Present

Urbana High School, *Urbana, IL*

Taught Art 1, Art 2, Art 3 Painting, Art 3 Drawing, and Digital Art courses for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Accomplishments include National Board Candidacy, several grants/year, nominations for Teacher of the Year.

**Art Teacher** August 2015-May 2017

J.W. Eater Junior High School, *Rantoul, IL*

Required course for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Introductory curriculum includes units on drawing, painting, and sculpture. Art 2 focuses on sculpture and web art. Advanced Painting explores historical and contemporary techniques.

**Art Educator** January 2012– January 2013

Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center, *Urbana, IL*

Weekly class for incarcerated youth. Students aged 12-18. Most lesson based on work of a contemporary artists. Painting, clay sculpture, drawing, collage, and conceptual art.

**Instructor** December 2010– December 2011

University of Illinois After School Arts Program

Franklin Middle School, *Champaign, IL*

Work two days weekly with 4-12 junior high students. Lessons include toast murals, stop motion animation, collage, & fashion design.

**Education Coordinator** August 2009– May 2010

Orpheum Children's Science Museum, *Champaign, IL*

Created & taught curriculum for field trips, Boys & Girls Club, weekend events.

Conducted educational outreach to schools & community fairs. Coordinated schedules & curriculum for volunteers & instructors.

**Substitute Teacher** January 2008– May 2009

Champaign Public Schools, *Champaign, IL*

Worked throughout the school district, K-12.

**Student Teacher** October 2007– December 2007

Holy Cross School, *Champaign, IL*

Students grades K-8. Junior High units focused on response from student interest surveys. Lessons incorporated extensive dialogue & reflection on Visual Culture.

**Student Teacher** August 2007– October 2007

Garden Hills Elementary School, *Champaign, IL*

Students grades K-5. Unit focused on the integration of installation art with schools science units. Lessons incorporated contemporary artists, art history, Technology. Successfully co-wrote grant for a “Latino Cultural Triathlon”.

**Arts & Crafts Teacher** September 2005– May 2006

Chinese Heritage Association, *Urbana, IL*

Students aged 4-10 years in contained room. Unit focused on, by parent/administration request, techniques of realism in painting & drawing.

**GUEST LECTURES****Guest Lecturer** December 2014

The Art Institute of Chicago, Teen Lab Program, *Chicago, IL*

After investigating the trompe l’oeil work of Lucy McKenzie students created experimental paintings appropriating her style.

**Guest Lecturer** October 2013

The Art Institute of Chicago, Teen Lab Program, *Chicago, IL*

Following a conversation about place and space students created site-specific works using only their bodies and cel phone cameras.

**Workshop Facilitator** February 2012

Making & Meaning, University of Illinois School of Art & Design, *Champaign, IL*

Students all studio majors. Talked about process behind quilt of recycled materials, then Q&A.

**Camp Facilitator** July 2011

Lori Catterini’s Youth Arts Camp, SoDo Theatre, *Champaign, IL*

Students aged 5-10. Projects included drawing, performing student written shorts on stage

**Workshop Facilitator** September 2010, June 2009

City of Urbana Art Workshop, Farmers Market at the Square, *Urbana, IL*

Students of all ages. Planned & taught five-hour workshops for Urbana Public Arts Program. Ten-minute sessions served approximately 150 people.

**Workshop Facilitator** October 2009

Formulating Your Aesthetic Agenda Skill Share, Independent Media Center, *Urbana, IL*

Adult Students. Projects included making visual brainstorms, a silent dance party, & performances of student compositions.

**Camp Facilitator** June 2006

Art Camp, Kewanee YMCA, *Kewanee, IL*

Students aged 5-12. Projects included masks, marionette puppets, “hot air balloons”.

## AWARDS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Syracuse University, **Dean's Fellow**, 2014-2015 School Year
- Feminist Film Festival, **Best Documentary Film**, Spring 2013
- Illinois Art Education Association, **Graduate Student Scholarship**, Fall 2012
- Writing Across the Curriculum **Workshop Attendee**, Spring 2012
- Departmental **Fellowship**, Spring 2012
- Graduate College Conference Travel **Grant**, 2011 & 2012
- Center for Teaching Excellence, **Excellent Teachers List**, Fall 2011
- Cultural Arts **Grant**, 2007
- University of Illinois **Deans List** (4.0 GPA) Fall 2005, Spring 2006, Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007
- Illinois State House of Representatives **Tuition Waiver**, 2003

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

**Member** 2012-present *Illinois Art Education Association*

**Member** 2012-present *American Educational Research Association*

**Member** 2012- present *American Studies Association*

**Member** 2011-present *United States Society of Educationthrough the Arts*

**Member** 2010-present *National Art Education Association*

## PUBLICATION

Bennett, R. (July 2014). T-Shirts. *Visual Arts Research*, 39(77).

## PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Bennett, R. (2014). Writing with Video. Presentation at the National Art Education Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA. Co-Presenters: Jones, M., O'Connor, J., & Olsen, B.

Bennett, R. (2013). The Evolving Face of Art Education. Presentation at the Illinois Art Education Association, Lisle, IL. Co-Presenters: Conn, M., Horwat, J., & Lucero, J.

Bennett, R. (2013). Culture and Agriculture: Art Education and Socially Engaged Art. Presentation at the American Education Research Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Bennett, R. (2013). The Changing Culture of Agriculture: Agricultural Practices as Visual Art Medium. Presentation at the National Art Education Association Annual Conference, Forth Worth, TX.

Bennett, R. & Scott, R. (2013). Empowerment through Art of Underrepresented Students, Overrepresented in a Juvenile Correctional Facility. Presentation at the National Art Education Association Annual Conference, Forth Worth, TX.

Bennett, R. (2012). Searching for Anti-Racist Art Education. Presentation at the National Art Education Association Annual Conference, New York City, NY.

## GRADUATE COURSES

**New Directions for Social Sculpture: Food, Art, & Ecology** Spring 2015

**Statistical Thinking & Application** Spring 2015  
**Qualitative Research I** Spring 2015  
**Teaching & Leadership for Social Justice** Spring 2015  
**Current Scholarship in Teaching & Leadership** Fall 2014  
**Video Research** Fall 2014  
**American Vernacular Cultural Land** Spring 2013  
**Seminar in Contemporary Art: Art & Ecology** Spring 2013  
**Pedagogy as Contemporary Art Practice** Spring 2013  
**Art History Theory & Methodology** Fall 2012  
**Cultural Studies & Critical Interpretation** Spring 2012  
**Foundations of Qualitative Methods** Spring 2012  
**Race & Cultural Critique** Fall 2011  
**Writing for Publication** Fall 2011  
**Artistic Development** Spring 2011  
**Pedagogy as Contemporary Art Practice** Spring 2011  
**Curriculum Development in Art** Fall 2010  
**Theoretical Foundations of Art Education** Fall 2010  
**Writing with Video** Fall 2010  
**Teaching Elementary Science** Fall 2010

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Ecological Thinking & Object Oriented Ontology
- Plant Husbandry for Home Consumption
- Cultural Representations of Agriculture & Farming
- Domesticity & Unpaid Labor
- Class

## ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

**Illinois Master Gardener Training** 2010

Studied Horticulture, *Champaign County, IL*

**School for Designing a Society** 2008-2009

Studied Permaculture, Cybernetics & Art, *Urbana, IL*

**Regenerative Urban Sustainability Training (R.U.S.T.)** 2007

Studied Permaculture, Aquaculture, Compost & Mycology, *Austin, TX*

## ART EXHIBITIONS

**Around the Block** June 2015 | Giertz Gallery, *Champaign, IL*

**Food, Art, & Ecology** May 2015 | Huntington Hall, *Syracuse, NY*

**Feminist Film Festival** May 2013 | Art Theatre, *Champaign, IL*

**Art Chicago** April 2011 | The Merchandise Mart, *Chicago, IL*  
**Boneyard Arts Festival** April 2010 | 34 East Main Street, *Champaign, IL*  
**Untitled Solo Exhibition** September 2009 | Café Kopi, *Champaign, IL*  
**Boneyard Arts Festival** April 2009 | Grand Prairie Friends' Space, *Bondville IL*  
 Independent Media Center, *Urbana IL*  
**Self Describing Show** March 2009 | Independent Media Center, *Urbana, IL*  
**Boneyard Arts Festival** April 2008 | Iron Post, *Urbana, IL*  
**Bachelors of Fine Arts Exhibition** May 2007 | Krannert Art Museum, *Champaign, IL*  
**The Space Between** April 2007 | Bennett Building, *Urbana, IL*  
**P.S. Painting & Sculpture** March 2007 | Link Gallery, *Champaign, IL*  
**George Brecht's Water Yam Box** September 2006 | Krannert Art Museum, *Champaign, IL*  
**Postcards from Traveling Friends** June 2006 | OpenSource Art Gallery, *Champaign, IL*  
**Over[site] Relocation & the Site-Specific** April 2005 | OpenSource Art Gallery, *Champaign, IL*

## PRESS

Evans, C. (2009, April). Young People Have It Hard: A review of the Roberta Bennett art show, "Self-Describing Show" at the Independent Media Center. *The Public Eye*.  
 Fenske, J. (2005, December 5). Look, Up in the Sky! *The Daily Illini*.  
 Fenske, J. (2005, December 7). Eenie, Meanie, Miny, Moe. *The Daily Illini*.  
 Hoemann, D. (2007, October 10). Paper Garden. *The News Gazette*.  
 Merli, M. (2015, June 14). Backyard talent in 'Around the Block'. *The News-Gazette*.  
 Nostwick, A. (2015, July 6). Block party: Parkland showcases community art. *Smile Politely*.  
 Taiwo, T. (2010, January 7). One-on-one with Roberta Bennett of the Orpheum Museum. *The Buzz*.

## FOOD WORK EXPERIENCE

### Bartender

September 2013–May 2014

The Antlers Restaurant, *Ithaca, NY*

### Bartender & Server

May 2007– December 2010

Iron Post Bar, *Urbana, IL*

### Cook

August 2009– December 2009

Red Herring Restaurant, *Urbana, IL*

### Prep Cook & Hostess

April 2009– August 2009

The Great Impasta, *Urbana, IL*

### Bartender & Server

May 2008– November 2008

Stortini Restaurant, *Austin, TX*

### Produce Stocker & Cashier

November 2007– May 2008

Common Ground Food Coop, *Champaign, IL*

### Server

August 2006– November 2006

Miko Restaurant, *Urbana, IL*

### Café Worker

August 2004– May 2007

## BENNETT

**Strawberry Fields, Urbana, IL**

**August 1997, August 1998**

**Sandwich Shop Worker**

**Jerry Eisenbarth's Farm, Henry & Stark  
Counties, IL**

**May 2000– August 2003**

**Subway, Kewanee, IL**

**Corn Detassler**

**SERVICE**

**Art Club Sponsor** 2015/16 Academic Year

J.W. Eater Junior High School, *Rantoul, IL*

**Visual Arts Judge** Summers of 2013, 2012, 2010

Champaign County 4-H Fair, *Urbana & Champaign, IL*

**Art Educator** January 2012– January 2013

Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center, *Urbana, IL*

**Vegetable Gardening Instructor** Summer 2011

Master Gardener Volunteer, Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center, *Urbana, IL*

Portfolios of students and my artwork available upon request.