

Meet the AGA Educators

Adrienne Alton

Adrienne holds a BA History in Art Major (2010) from the University of Victoria. While living in Victoria, BC she volunteered for local galleries and art collectives and discovered her passion for the role museums play in our society. Her future plans include studying abroad in pursuit of a Masters in Museum Studies with a focus on Museum Education.

Dara Armsden

Dara Armsden holds a B.Ed. (2008) and a BFA (2001) in Photography. Since 2001, Dara has exhibited work in Edmonton, Calgary and London, Ontario. Her educational aspirations include cultivating the importance of art making in the community. Her current explorations focus on the documentation of travel and its relationship to our personal experience through the mediums of photography, printmaking and installation.

Michelle Kainer Brinton

Michelle Kainer Brinton holds a BA (1995) from the University of Alberta and a B.Ed (1999) from the University of Calgary. Brinton has extensive experience working with young children in diverse environments including public art galleries and the Montessorri Program in Calgary. Brinton currently divides her time between teaching and spending time with her two children, aged 5 & 6.

Ceileigh Cunningham

Ceileigh Cunningham graduated from the University of Alberta with her Education degree, with a major in Canadian history and a minor in fine arts and art history in 2010. Since then, Ceileigh has developed an interest in arts education as a way to empower students to feel comfortable exploring communication both verbally and visually. While as an artist she continues to explore a number of mediums and styles, she eventually hopes to use art to increase cross-cultural understanding.

Alison Edwards

Allison Edwards holds a BFA from the University of Alberta where she favoured painting, drawing, and figurative sculpture. Service has an active painting studio practice but continues to explore new media and techniques. She has instructed art classes to people of all ages at the Art Gallery of Alberta where she aims to inspire creativity in others.

Lébassé Guéladé

Lébassé is currently completing her Bachelor of Education at the Campus St-Jean of the University of Alberta with a major in French and a minor in Mathematics. She has many experiences working with children and their families as an in-home educator. Lébassé believes that learning through art is a great way to stimulate the imagination of students

Alvina Mardhani-Bayne

Alvina holds a BA in Anthropology and Linguistics and a BA (Hons) in Art History, both from the University of Alberta. She is interested in art as a tool for communication, so it's fitting that when she is not at the AGA, Alvina is putting the finishing touches on her Master's degree in Linguistics, also at the University of Alberta.

Adriana Onita

Adriana is currently completing her BA Honours degree at the University of Alberta with a major in Romance Languages, a passion which helped in developing the AGA's French and Spanish programs. She is fascinated by the links between language and artwork and enjoys exploring a variety of media including ink and collage. After graduating, Adriana aspires to become a professor and world-wide traveler.

Jennifer Poburan

Jennifer Poburan holds a BFA (2009) in Painting from the University of Alberta. She has experience working as a professional artist within the Edmonton arts community and has extended her studio practices by teaching all ages in general areas of visual art education. Poburan's current portfolio expresses a melding relationship between organic and constructed landscapes through the use of layering and mixed media approaches to the canvas.

Denver Powell

Denver holds a BA in English, and is currently completing a degree in Secondary Education at the University of Alberta. Recently, Denver was the Summer Programs Coordinator for the AGA's ArtBreak Summer Camps, where he helped implement a number of meaningful programs, and researched the connections between art and media studies.

Luciana Erregue Sacchi

Having studied Law in her native Argentina, Luciana is currently working towards her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Art History at the University of Alberta. Luciana has extensive experience teaching young children about art at the community level. She is an active member of the Belgravia Community League where she ran the Belgravia School Art Club from 2000 to 2005 and is currently involved with the Belgravia Arts Park. Luciana is interested in the interaction and integration of community based art initiatives and traditional art institutions.

Tamra Simons

Tamra Simons work and studies have taken her from Canada to the United States and Asia, giving her the opportunity to teach children, teens, and adults in public, private, and corporate classrooms. Tamra holds an AA Degree in Design from Brooks College, California and a B.Ed. majoring in Art from the University of Alberta. She believes art education should be exciting, accessible, and engaging for all.

Lucie Wallace

Lucie is currently working towards completing her Baccalauréat en Art in history at the Campus Saint-Jean of the University of Alberta. She is very interested in the relation between historical and social context and an artwork's meaning. Having grown up in the Francophone community of Edmonton, she has had extensive experience working with children of all ages in many French art and dance camps and classes. She's acquired a knowledge and passion for art through her visits to world renowned art museums and art history classes at the University of Alberta.