JULIAN MERCER

ART TEACHER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Visual art teacher with 6+ years teaching drawing, painting, ceramics, and digital media in public schools. Designs project-based units that build technique and creative confidence, and uses student exhibitions to engage families. Experienced in running studio budgets and supporting students with different learning needs.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Visual Art Teacher Aug 2022 - Present
Boston Public Schools, Boston, MA

- Teach drawing, painting, and ceramics to about 130 students a year in grades 9 through 12, with five sections a day.
- Built a portfolio-based grading system with four criteria that students can use to revise work before a final grade.
- Organized the school's first spring art show, which drew 300 visitors and displayed work by 90 students.
- Managed a $9,000 supply budget and cut costs by about 15% by moving to bulk orders and shared clay recycling.
- Helped six seniors prepare portfolios for art school applications, and four received admission.
- Taught a three-week unit on color and mural design, and students painted a 20-foot hallway mural with the principal's approval.
- Added a digital illustration unit using Procreate on school iPads for students who preferred drawing on screens.

Elementary Art Teacher Aug 2020 - Jun 2022
Cambridge Public Schools, Cambridge, MA

- Taught art to 11 classes a week from kindergarten through grade 5 and planned units around color, line, and printmaking.
- Worked with classroom teachers to connect art projects with science and social studies units.
- Adapted tools and materials for students with sensory needs and physical disabilities with the occupational therapist.
- Hung student work in the main hallway each month, which gave every student an exhibit at least once a year.
- Presented a unit on printmaking at the district art teachers' meeting, and three teachers adopted it.

Teaching Artist Jun 2018 - Jun 2020
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Boston, MA

- Led school group workshops of 25 to 30 students that connected gallery works with hands-on drawing and collage.
- Developed a family studio program that ran on Saturdays and served about 40 families each month.
- Wrote lesson plans for hands-on visits that included collage and portrait sketching, and handed off the plans to future teaching artists.
- Trained six volunteers to facilitate gallery conversations and studio activities.

CORE SKILLS

Studio art instruction | Drawing and painting | Ceramics and clay | Printmaking | Digital illustration | Portfolio development | Project-based learning | Art history integration | Classroom management | Supply budgeting | Exhibition planning | Adaptive art instruction | Procreate

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA

CERTIFICATIONS

Massachusetts Educator License, Visual Art (PreK-8 and 5-12) | Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL), Visual Art | CPR and First Aid