

Contact

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Teaching Experience

Judson University

Assistant Professor / Fall 2014 – Present

Redeveloping curriculum within existing program to create a comprehensive four-year plan. Classes include web design 1 & 2, typography, history of graphic design, image making, design theory, internship seminar, and senior proposal/project. Team taught introductory design courses with architecture and fine art faculty members.

Judson University

Adjunct Professor / Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Generation of web design curriculum for junior-level students covering responsive design, web as a narrative device, and basic HTML/CSS coding. Additionally lead classes on production methods and skills with digital tools.

University of Illinois at Chicago

Adjunct Professor / Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

Guide first-year students through an introduction to digital media production tools while introducing basic visual concepts and theory. Instruct introductory studio classes in 2D form and color theory.

Harrington College of Design

Adjunct Professor / Fall 2013

Instruction of graduate level course for international students with a collaborative project on design for social change.

Professional Experience

Lauren Meranda Design

Founder / Graphic Designer
Spring 2009 – Present

Multi-disciplinary design practice specializing in projects for cultural institutions, social activism, civic engagement, and public memory through experimental media, collaborative storytelling, and interactive design for physical spaces

Sweet Table Chicago

Co-founder / Graphic Designer
Winter 2009 – Present

Kym Abrams Design

Freelance Graphic Designer
Fall 2013

Conceptualize and design print materials through production for various clients in healthcare, education, arts and the environment

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum

Exhibition / Graphic Designer
September 2009 – August 2013

Oversee the design and implementation of temporary and long-term exhibitions of historic and contemporary social justice content; exhibition layout, space planning, and interactive environments for adults and family-focused learning spaces, as well as didactic materials, print publications and internet presence

NIU Jack Olson Gallery

Graphic Designer
September 2008 – September 2009

Execute set-up of traveling exhibitions including contemporary art installations, marketing materials, exhibition catalogs, and social media presence

Education

University of Illinois at Chicago

Masters of Design
August 2011–May 2013

Northern Illinois University

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Visual Communication
Summa Cum Laude
August 2005–May 2009

**Hochschule fur Gestaltung Kunst
Basel School of Design**

Summer Design Workshops 2012

International Study

Design and Architecture in Italy and Spain
Milan, Florence, Venice, Barcelona
Summer 2008

Exhibits, Awards,
and Acknowledgments

Distortion Social

Featured Artist / Fall 2015

Projection installation of prose onto smoke from fog machines. The exhibition combined letterforms and various materials to distort and dimensionalize, calling into question what is real versus perceived, featuring works from ChiDM's permanent collection as well as site-specific installations.

Chicago Design Archives

Judges Choice Award / Fall 2014

Experimental short film, "WunderKammer," was selected by the Society of Typographic Arts Chicago to be included in the Chicago Design Archive for 2014. The piece exhibited as a part of Archive14 and was honored as a judges choice at the opening reception.

"Cased" Design Competition

Finalist / Fall 2015

The event intro video created for Folk Nite: WunderKammer was selected to advance to the final round of the "Cased" competition. From the 117 selected second round entries, the video was chosen to continue into the final round.

American Alliance of Museums

Recognition of Creativity / Spring 2013

The exhibition "Unfinished Business: 21st Century Home Economics" was recognized by the AAM for "Creativity in Museums" and was featured in the May/June '13 edition of "Museum."

Typeforce 6

Typographic Allstar / Winter 2015

Exhibition of a large-scale interactive piece entitled, "Word Water Game," for the annual showcase of emerging typographic artists.

Moving Design Call to Action

Design Activism Participant, 2009

AIGA Board Member

NIU Chapter, 2008–2009

Worked on the board with fellow AIGA design students in planning events to further the educational experience.

Designed Exhibitions

**Back to the Sandbox:
Art and Radical Pedagogy**
Exhibition Designer
Reykjavík Art Museum, Iceland
2016–Present

**Unfinished Business:
21st Century Home Economics**
Exhibition Designer
Jane Addams Hull-House Museum
2012–2013

**Report to the Public: An Untold
Story of the Conservative Vice Lords**
Exhibition Designer
Art In These Times
June 2012–January 2013

Unfinished Business: Art Education
Exhibition Designer
Jane Addams Hull-House Museum
2011–2012

**Redefining Democracy:
Jane Addams and the Hull-House Settlement**
Exhibition Designer
Jane Addams Hull-House Museum
2009–Present

Publications

Jane Addams Zine
Stockyard Insitute / Winter 2016
A zine publication written and designed
in collaboration with Jim Duignan, founder
of the Stockyard Institute.

TransActions Publication
Socially Engaged Art Newsletter / 2015
A collection of essays and images from
socially engaged artists from Chicago and
Dublin. Created in collaboration with the
Stockyard Institute and the National College
of Art and Design in Dublin.

Design After Loss
Masters Thesis / UIC / Spring 2013
Abstract published online through
UIC School of Design and self-published
as a limited edition hardcover book.

Hull-House Art Lending Library
Jane Addams Hull-House Museum / May 2012
Catalog of contemporary artworks from
Three Walls Gallery available on short term loan
for personal display by museum visitors.

Conferences, Presentations & Contributions

Hamilton Woodtype Museum Trip

Event Coordinator / Spring 2016

Planned and coordinated a full-day workshop for 10 students to the Hamilton Woodtype Museum in Two Rivers, Wisconsin.

Lamp Design/Build Workshop

Event Host / Fall 2014

A Judson University AIGA Student Group event leading students in designing and building lamps from found materials.

STA Designers Weekend

Presenter / Winter 2016

Shared about the planning, execution, and trials of a student creative nature retreat for Judson University with colleague, Anna Filbert. Second presentation on the expansion of the *Forward, Together Forward Memorial* to a larger gun violence memorial.

Hand Lettering Workshop

Event Host / Fall 2014

A Judson University AIGA Student Group event with student members. Students were given materials and a phrase to hand letter.

AIGA Judson University Student Group

Faculty Advisor / Fall 2014–Present

The Judson University AIGA Student Group hosts multiple events a semester for local AIGA student chapters, developed a social media campaign (#thinkweird), created and maintain an online blog. Faculty advisor curates a weekly email newsletter, supervises all meetings, attends meetings/events and writes an end of year report of student group activity.

AIGA New Ventures Design Educators Conference

Presenter & Panelist / Fall 2014

Intersections in graduate studies presenter and panelist discussing designing public memory and designing for interpretation.

UIC Senior Design Colloquium

Presenter / Spring 2014

Participated in a presentation series of UIC alumni on design graduate school experiences.

Art & Design Department Creative Retreat

Development & Host / October 2015

Curated a weekend creative retreat experience for students at Camp Wandawonga. Aimed at taking students out of their usual classroom environment, the curriculum groups students by themes of creation to use found materials in day-long installation projects.

Folk Nite: WunderKammer

Curator & Producer / Spring 2014

Developed a community-generated installation and short-form performance event as a founding member and director of Kinderfolk.

STA Chicago Design Archive 2015

Volunteer & Host / Summer 2015

Organized entries into the archive competition and hosted three judges for the judges' day. Facilitated in the judging process—setting up entries, guiding judges, and setting up judges' night public event.