NICOLE AKSTEIN // www.nicoleakstein.com // nicole.akstein@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Master of Art Education (M.A.Ed.) – December 2014 University of Georgia (UGA), Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, GA (USA) Certificate in Nonprofit Management – May 2014 University of Georgia (UGA), School of Social Work, Athens, GA (USA)

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree (B.F.A.), Photography – May 2007 School of Visual Arts (SVA), New York, NY (USA)

Foreign Language Skills - Portuguese, Spanish, and French
Computer Skills - Microsoft Office (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Entourage), Adobe (Acrobat, Photoshop, Bridge), Prezi

WORK EXPERIENCE

Arts Outreach Coordinator

Steffen Thomas Museum of Art Buckhead, Georgia February 2015 – February 2016

• Worked closely with the Museum Director and Curator in planning and developing the museum's various programs and outreach efforts. Collaborated with the Director, teachers and artists to build program curricula and coordinate projects. Responsible for writing grants, assisting with fundraising and event production. Also assisted Curator with installing exhibits, museum tours and docent program.

Project Coordinator

Partnership with Athens Regional Library System
Athens, Georgia
April - May 2015

• Created outreach program in partnership with the Athens-Clarke County Library System and Pinewoods Community Library, to develop and promote ongoing shadow puppetry program with an important Hispanic community (Pinewoods) in Athens; establishment of a bilingual (Spanish/English) shadow puppetry workshop/producation involving the collaboration of local artists/teachers and volunteers that tied in literacy through storytelling related to the students' heritage (ages 5-15). Financed through grant funding from AthFest Educates.

Art Education Assistant

Lyndon House Arts Center Athens, Georgia August 2014 - January 2015

• Assist Art Education Specialist with outreach, program development, event planning, grant writing and fundraising. Assist art instructors with class registration process, curriculum prep for afterschool programming and organizing studios. Also teach various annual programs, workshops and camps that engage K-12 students.

Program Art Teacher

Lyndon House Arts Center Athens, Georgia May 2013 – August 2015

• Taught art during spring and summer sessions to students ages 4-11. Responsible for developing weekly themes, lesson-planning, project development, classroom management and engaging students in daily projects shown in weekly group exhibits. Developed and implemented an 8-week photography and writing program with middle-school students. Responsible

for weekly lesson plans, weekly project development, classroom management, and collaborated with students on exhibition planning.

Preschool Art Teacher

Arrow Athens, Georgia May 2013 - June 2014

• Taught art to preschool students ages 2-4 years old. Responsible for developing weekly themes, lesson-planning, project development, classroom management and engaging students in daily art projects.

Art Teacher

La Scuola Primaria G. Mancini Cortona (AR), Italy March - April 2013

• Developed an art lesson unit exploring art and emotion for the 2nd grade while in Italy studying abroad through the University of Georgia Study Abroad Program. Along with my co-teacher, we created lesson plans and taught in Italian to non-English speakers to develop a large-scale art project in collaboration with the elementary school and community. The students exhibited their work in a group show with the entire elementary school.

Museum Docent

Georgia Museum of Art Athens, Georgia September - December 2012

• Trained with the GMOA Curator of Education and Community Docents and led student and public tours. Led an Athens-Clarke County field trip tour with large groups of 5th grade students, prepared activities and exhibit-inspired art projects. Also planned and led a tour during the Museum's Student Night event. Developed a tour and teaching packet for middle and high school students.

Art Teacher

Pushp Niketan School Dhampur (UP), India January - May 2011

• Collaborated with school art teacher on curriculum and development for elementary and middle school classes. Implemented a photography course with the 5th grade focused on reflective writing and storytelling, as well as a large mural created in collaboration with 3rd-5th grade students. Developed a large-scale multi-media installation made from recycled materials with the 7th grade. Collaborated with students to curate an exhibition of their work for the community on the school premises.

Substitute Teacher

The Atlanta Progressive Preschool Atlanta, Georgia August - December 2010

• Taught small group classes in a Waldorf inspired preschool. Assisted lead teacher with class management, organizing classroom, and implementing curriculum. Helped create provocations to engage students in the learning process.

Program Educator

The Clifton School Atlanta, Georgia June - August 2010

• Taught large groups of up to 30 preschool students in the Reggio Emilia summer program. I collaborated with 3 other teachers in development of curriculum, class management, and group art projects. In charge of leading individual group centers and creating provocations, and engaging students with environment.

Long-term Substitute Art Teacher

Woodward Academy College Park, Georgia March - June 2010

• Taught high school photography, ceramics, design, and drawing to groups of up to fifteen students at a time; continued with the teacher's curriculum and lesson plans provided. Students worked with various alternative photographic processes, and black and white printing in the darkroom; design course worked with collage and printmaking; drawing and ceramics courses covered the fundamentals of the medium through various projects.

Art Teacher

Novo Horizonte – Organization for Educational Reinforcement Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Brazil

January - March 2010

• Assisted current teachers at the NGO, in the community Morro da Formiga in Tijuca, RJ. Worked with students ages 5-15 in groups of 10-20 at one time. Developed collaborative art projects that included restoring and painting a mural together, engaging in educational activities, and art activities.

Photography Teacher

Association for Educational and Cultural Development (AEC-TEA)

Capim Grosso (BA), Brazil

August - December 2009

• Taught 5 different classes to students of all ages (adolescent – adult) in conjunction with Ponto de Cultura of Bahia state grant. Collaborated with the Project Coordinator and prepared lesson plans for both beginner and advanced courses. Taught technical exercises on field trips, led slide discussions and group critiques. Taught students to use Microsoft MovieMaker to create videos, and collaborated with students to curate an exhibition in the town square.

Photography Teacher

Center for Pan Asian Community Services, Inc. (CPACS)

Chamblee, Georgia

February - May 2009

• Taught a semester-long after-school program that used photography to explore concepts of community with diverse students from Sequoia Middle School at WonderRoot Community Arts Center in East Atlanta. Taught basic elements of photography using traditional darkroom methods and led group discussions. Exhibited student work at Eyedrum in Atlanta in fundraising efforts for the program.

Gallery Assistant

Opal Gallery Atlanta, GA February 2008 - July 2009

• Assisted Gallery Director in operations and customer service during business hours, organized client data entry, aided with monthly show preparation, photographed openings, and supervised occasional events at the gallery.

Assistant Photo Editor

Turner Broadcasting Systems, Inc.

Atlanta, GA

November 2008 - August 2009

• Assisted the Image Management Department with edits of shoots from networks such as CNN, TNT, TBS, TruTV. Filled out work orders, delivered client needs and archived shoots. Also assisted with general tasks, created PowerPoint presentations, collaborated with other editors on shoots, and assisted the department with archiving needs.

Photo Coordinator

Atlanta Magazine Atlanta, GA

August - December 2007

• Assisted in editing photography for featured stories, coordinated photo shoots, acted as liaison between the magazine and photographers, worked with Photoshop on images featured in upcoming issues, worked closely with the design and editorial team on achieving best photography, handled all photo/art research, as well as assisted in maintaining art budget for monthly issues.

Assistant Photo Editor & Photographer

The Village Voice New York, NY January 2007 - June 2007

• Assisted the Photo Editor in preparing the photographic layouts for each issue, edited final proofs for featured articles, retouched images, organized database, and photographed various editorials for publication.

PUBLICATIONS + MEDIA

2015	Featured Artist on Light Leaked
2015	ATLToDo, Close Review
2015	Flagpole, AthFest Educates Grantee Brings Shadow Puppetry to Pinewoods
2015	Lake Oconee News, One to Three Review
2015	Lake Oconee News, GA
2015	Morgan County Citizen, GA
2014	FLAUNT Magazine: Robotripping Feature
2014	Featured artist on BOOOOOOM
2014	WonderRoot Artist PodCast Interview
2013	Featured Photographer on Feature Shoot
2010	Spraygraphic, Artist Interview
2008	Access Atlanta, Group Show Review
2008	Access Atlanta, Solo Show Review
2008	Slow Exposures Magazine
2008	Blender Magazine
2007-08	Atlanta Magazine
2007	Village Voice
2007	Featured portfolio and member, FJORD online artist space
2007	Conscientious, "Contemporary Photographers"

EXHIBITIONS

2015	Instruction: Artwork by Lyndon House Arts Center Faculty, Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens, GA
2015	Up Close, an INSIDE OUT exhibition with students from the Crossroads School, Madison, GA
2015	One to Three: Works by Nicole Akstein, Greg Strelecki & Angelina Bellebuono, Steffen Thomas Museum of Art, GA
2015	Cada Heroe Tiene Una Historia, Student Shadow Puppetry performance, Pinewoods Library, Athens, GA
2015	28th Annual Printmaking & Book Arts Juried Student Exhibition, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, GA
2015	Close, joint show with Meredith Kooi, curated by Chanel Kim, Kibbee Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2014	Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF) Small Works Juried Exhibition, OCAF, Watkinsville, GA
2014	Lyndon House 39th Juried Exhibition, Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens, GA
2014	Student Juried Exhibition, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, GA
2014	Between Passages, Solo Show, WonderRoot Gallery, Atlanta, GA
2014	Close Up: Portraits by Athens area Youth, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, GA
2013	Group Show, NAEA Student Exhibition, Lamar Dodd School of Art, Athens, GA
2013	On Community: Photographs and Writing by Athens area Youth, Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens, GA
2012	The Imaginary Million in conjunction with WonderRoot, MOCA GA and Kennesaw State University's
	Zuckerman Museum of Art
2012	LIFE IS BUT A DREAM, The COOP House, Atlanta, GA
2010	Home + Land, Gallery Café, Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival, Atlanta, GA
	Slow Exposures, Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival, Zebulon, GA
2009	Print Studio Group Show, Serenbe Photography Center, Palmetto, GA
	CPACS Project student show, Eye Drum, Atlanta, GA
2008	Sylvania; No. 37, Opal Gallery, Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival, Atlanta, GA
	KA-CHUNK, Group show, Opal Gallery, Atlanta, GA
	Slow Exposures, Zebulon, GA
	Group Exhibition, Library Coffee Co., Atlanta, GA
2007	Mentor Show, The Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY
2006	Solo Show, West Egg, Atlanta Celebrates Photography Festival, Atlanta, GA
	Solo Show, Salon Next, Atlanta, GA
2004	Group Show, Starbucks Coffee, New York, NY
2003	Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition, Woodruff Arts Center, Atlanta, GA

PRESENTATIONS + WORKSHOPS

January 2015 // Georgia Association of Museums & Galleries (GAMG) Conference presenter for Steffen Thomas Museum of Art

March 2015 // Kibbee Gallery, Atlanta GA – Artist Talk with Meredith Kooi on joint exhibition, Close

March 2014 // Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens GA – Artist visit and presentation of featured artwork in the gallery with students

November 2013 // Lyndon House Arts Center, Athens GA – Applied Project Student Exhibition

February 2014 // University of Georgia – Applied Project Student Exhibition in the Art Education Gallery

October 2013 // University of Georgia Art Education Student-Teacher Training – Presentation of Applied Project and on Teaching to Multicultural Students

June 2013 // J.W. Fanning Institute of Leadership, Athens GA – Co-taught art component of the Leadership Without Limits program with migrant youth using photography to explore identity and culture

May 2013 // Duke University, Center for Documentary Studies workshop with Dr. Katie Hyde – *Portraits and Dreams: Literacy Through Photography* – Methodologies in using photography and narrative in the classroom to explore concepts of community.

AWARDS + HONORS

2014-15 AthFest Educates Grant Recipient in collaboration with Athens-Clarke Country Library, Athens, GA • Jane Willson Scholarship & Cortona Program Stipend, University of Georgia Cortona Studies Abroad 2013 • School of Visual Arts Mentor Show Participant 2007, New York, NY • Scholastic Art Award 2003, Silver Key recipient for Portfolio & Individual Prize, Atlanta, GA