

DR. DEREK FENNER

Administrator - Educator - Researcher

Contact

530-575-2227 | derekfenner@gmail.com

Current Employment

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPSTATE
SPARTANBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA**

August 2021 - Present

Assistant Professor | Director of FOCUS Galler

- Leads art education program, teaching a full course load, advising students in the program, assessing program effectiveness, & supporting student teachers.
- Serves as an official University Supervisor overseeing student teachers for the School of Education.
- Directs the community-based FOCUS gallery.

Education

ED.D IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP (2020)

Mills College, Oakland, CA

Dissertation: "Youth Participatory Action Research as Classroom Practice"

MA IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP (2015)

Mills College, Oakland, CA

MFA IN WRITING & POETICS (1999)

Naropa University, Boulder, CO

BFA IN PHOTOGRAPHY (1997)

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

LICENSURE

Massachusetts Admin / Principal License # 459089

References

DR. MARY LOU HIGHTOWER

Professor Emeritus of Art Education

University of South Carolina Upstate

hightowm@uscupstate.edu | 864-580-0190

DR. PATTY BODE

Associate Professor and Coordinator of Art Education

Southern Connecticut State University

patty.bode@gmail.com | 413-519-3228

DR. DAVID DONAHUE

Professor, School of Education

University of San Francisco

ddonahue@usfca.edu | 415-422-4293

LinkedIn Profile

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/derek-fenner-04898757>

Previous Employment

ALAMEDA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Hayward, California

ARTS LEARNING PROGRAM MANAGER

October 2015 - May 2021

- Supported organizations and districts in leading for equity.
- Supported learning in 18 school districts through professional development, especially in integrated learning across the content areas, culturally and linguistically relevant teaching, literacy strategies for emerging multilingual learners, and leading for social and racial justice.
- Worked with local juvenile justice agencies to hire teaching artists to work and support youth in the juvenile justice system.
- Served as the Bay Area Visual and Performing Arts Lead for the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association.

FACULTY - INTEGRATED LEARNING SPECIALIST PROGRAM

September 2013 - May 2020

- Taught courses to educators and administrators in this certificate program rooted in Harvard's Project Zero frameworks on integrated thinking and learning, innovative and responsive assessment strategies, and collaborative curriculum design.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERT

September 2013 - September 2015

- Worked with the Associate Superintendent of Learning and Accountability on various initiatives, including teacher leadership, results-based accountability, asset mapping, and social-emotional learning support for educators in the juvenile justice system.

GATEWAY TO COLLEGE AT CONTRA COSTA COLLEGE

Richmond, California

Educator / Researcher / Consultant

January 2013 - June 2015

- Taught social emotional art courses to youth in this high school continuation program that enables them to complete their high school diplomas while simultaneously earning college credit toward an associates degree.
- As my doctoral research site, I taught a yearlong course that enacted youth participatory action research that allowed students to uncover who they were as artists, researchers, and teachers. The course culminated in a youth led conference for educators.

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Publications

- Chapter: "Art Unbound: The Arts and Juvenile Justice Education," in *Systemic Collapse and Renewal* (Peter Lang, 2019)
- Contributor: *A Teaching Artist's Companion* (Oxford University Press, 2019)
- Article: "Picturing service-learning: Defining the field, setting expectations, shaping learning," in *Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement*, Vol.19 Issue 4, (2015)
- Chapter: "Unlocking the Light through Youth Arts and Teacher Development," in *Culturally Relevant Arts Education for Social Justice* (Routledge, 2013).

Conference Presentations

- American Educational Research Association
- American Anthropological Association
- California Association for Bilingual Education
- Grantmakers in the Arts
- Humboldt County STEAM Conference
- National Art Education Association
- South Carolina Art Education Association
- USC Upstate Diversity in Education Summit
- USC Upstate Research Symposium
- Many district specific professional development workshops

Professional Development Strengths

- Culturally and linguistically relevant teaching and learning.
- Integrated learning across the content areas.
- Juvenile justice education.
- Leading for racial and social justice.
- Literacy strategies for emerging multilingual learners and struggling readers.
- Social emotional learning.
- Teaching visual art and poetry.

Volunteer Work

- Advisory Board for *Creativity Challenge: The State of Art Education in California*, SRI International
- Policy Roundtable, California Alliance for Art Education
- Online Curriculum Coordinator and Review Board Member, Caucus for Social Theory in Art Education
- Co-founder, White Educators for Racial Justice - Bay Area

Previous Employment

**COLLABORATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES (DYS)**

Massachusetts (statewide)

COORDINATOR OF ARTS PROGRAMMING

June 2010 - July 2012

- Worked collaboratively with statewide partners to ensure that arts programming for youth involved with the Massachusetts juvenile justice system was integrated into the vision of multiple initiatives including alternative sentencing and pathways to college and career.
- Developed effective relationships with funders, community-based organizations, coalitions, and other institutions to support access and demonstrate the value of arts-related programming for youth impacted by the justice system.
- Provided leadership, direction, and professional development for already in place arts-related programming to support and coordinate efficient and effective service-delivery.
- In 2010, I led the Arts InFusion Task Force, a statewide initiative to create access to and opportunities in the arts for youth involved with DYS, by creating unique partnerships with major juvenile justice, arts, and education leaders.

PROJECT DIRECTOR OF UNLOCKING THE LIGHT

September 2006 - May 2010

- Successfully applied for, received, and managed a \$1,000,000 Federal Department of Education grant program named *Unlocking the Light*, a program that embedded culturally and linguistically relevant teaching and learning in all 50+ juvenile justice facilities across the state.
- Led the successful implementation of this innovative professional development program into the DYS system. Guided by first-hand experience as a teacher in the DYS education program, I prepared community-based organizations and teaching artists to provide job-embedded professional development attuned to the physical and behavioral complexities of DYS classrooms, providing both training sessions and a manual of policies and procedures.
- Prepared DYS education program staff at multiple levels (administrative, teaching, and other staff) for teachers' use of theater, visual arts, multimedia, and music to engage students in classroom environments where active learning and the arts are outside typical norms.

VISUAL ART AND POETRY TEACHER

September 2002 - June 2007

- Taught visual art and poetry to youth in 6 residential facilities in the Massachusetts juvenile justice system.
- Partnered with other content teachers on integrating the arts.

TEACHING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

University of South Carolina Upstate

Fall 2021

ARTE 330 - Foundations in Art Education
ARTE 450 - School Art Program
ARTE 459 - Art Education Senior Seminar
ARTE 460 - Directed Teaching in Art Education

Spring 2022

ARTE 330 - Foundations in Art Education
ARTE 429 - Art for Elementary and Middle Schools
ARTE 430 - Secondary Methods for Art Education
ARTE 459 - Art Education Senior Seminar
ARTE 460 - Directed Teaching in Art Education
ARTS 399 - Independent Study - Mayfair Art Studios

Summer 2022

ARTH 101 - Introduction to Art
EDIT 690 - Professional Development - Issues and Trends in Education

Fall 2022

ARTE 330 - Foundations in Art Education
ARTE 450 - School Art Program
ARTE 459 - Art Education Senior Seminar
ARTE 460 - Directed Teaching in Art Education
ARTS 399 - Independent Study - Mayfair Art Studios
ARTH 101 - Introduction to Art (Winter)

Spring 2023

ARTE 429 - Art for Elementary and Middle Schools
ARTE 430 - Secondary Methods for Art Education
ARTS 399 - Independent Study - Mayfair Art Studios
ARTH 101 - Introduction to Art

Summer 2022

ARTH 101 - Introduction to Art
EDIT 690 - Professional Development - Issues and Trends in Education

Fall 2023

ARTE 330 - Foundations in Art Education
ARTE 450 - School Art Program
ARTE 459 - Art Education Senior Seminar
ARTE 460 - Directed Teaching in Art Education
ARTS 399 - Independent Study - Mayfair Art Studios

TEACHING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

University of South Carolina Upstate

Fall 2023

ARTE 330 - Foundations in Art Education
ARTE 450 - School Art Program
ARTE 459 - Art Education Senior Seminar
ARTE 460 - Directed Teaching in Art Education
ARTS 399 - Independent Study - Mayfair Art Studios

Winter 2023-24

ARTH 399 - Independent Study - Contemporary Art as a Site for Creativity and Education

Spring 2024

ARTE 429 - Art for Elementary and Middle Schools
ARTE 430 - Secondary Methods for Art Education
ARTE 459 - Art Education Senior Seminar
ARTE 460 - Directed Teaching in Art Education
ARTS 399 - Independent Study - At the Intersection of Artist and Art Teacher

Summer 2024

ARTH 101 - Introduction to Art
EDIT 690 - Professional Development - Issues and Trends in Education

CONFERENCES

PEER-REVIEWED | NATIONAL, STATE, REGIONAL

National Art Education Association Conference. "Talking About Art from the Inside Out." April 2024. Minneapolis, MN.

South Carolina Art Education Association Conference. "Student Takeover! Student-Led Art Education through Youth Participator Action Research." November 2023. Greenville, SC

Palmetto State Art Education Conference. "Generative Joy: Talking about Art from the Inside Out." October 2023. Spartanburg, SC.

National Art Education Association Conference. "Critical Racial Consciousness with Pre-Service Art Educators: Case studies of practice in higher education." With Dr. Patty Bode. April 2023. San Antonio, TX.

National Art Education Association Conference. "Decolonizing Lack: Art-centered literacy for equity." April 2023. San Antonio, TX.

South Carolina Art Education Association Conference. "Talking About Art from the Inside Out." November 2022. Greenville, SC.

National Art Education Association Conference. "Reading the World: Freire and art-centered literacy." March 2022. Virtual.

University of South Carolina Upstate Diversity Summit. "The Oblique Line: Teaching beyond bias." February 2022. Spartanburg, SC.

University of South Carolina Upstate Research Symposium. "Art Unbound: Youth participatory action research as pedagogy." February 2022. Spartanburg, SC.

South Carolina Art Education Association Conference. "Reading the World: Art-centered literacy strategies for equity." November 2021. Greenville, SC.

Creative Education Symposium. "Collaborative poetics: Building community and understanding." April 2021. Virtual for Humboldt County Office of Education.

National Art Education Association. "Continuing Racial Literacy in Art Education." Presented with Dr. Patty Bode. March 2021. Boston, MA.

Creativity at the Core Conference. "At the Intersection of Art, Youth Justice, Equity, and English Learners." August 2019. Monterey, CA.

Creativity at the Core Conference. "Arts for Court and Community Schools." August 2018. San Diego, CA.

National Art Education Association. "Racial Literacy and Culturally Sustaining Pedagogies: Continuing to break down racial divides and discipline boundaries." Co-presented with Dr. Patty Bode. March 2018. Seattle, WA.

California Association for Bilingual Education Conference. "Art-Centered Literacy for Equity." March 2018. Sacramento, CA.

Grantmakers in the Arts National Conference. "Arts and Juvenile Justice: Structuring better outcomes for detained youth." October 2017. Detroit, MI.

National Art Education Association. "White Racial Literacy in Multiracial Worlds: Taking up the challenge of change." Co-presented with Dr. Patty Bode. March 2017. New York, NY.

California Association for Bilingual Education Conference. "At the Intersection of Art, Youth Justice, Equity, and English Learners." March 2017. Anaheim, CA.

CONFERENCES

PEER-REVIEWED - NATIONAL, STATE/REGIONAL

Creativity at the Core Conference. "Arts and Juvenile Justice." August 2016. Santa Clara, CA.

California Association for Bilingual Education Conference. "Engaging English Learners in Powerful Arts Learning." March 2016. San Francisco, CA.

Creativity at the Core Conference. "Creative Inquiry in Your Classroom." August 2015. Los Angeles, CA.

National Art Education Association. "The Biopolitical Blues of Juvenile Justice Youth." March 2015. New Orleans, LA.

National Art Education Association. "Biopolitics & Mari Ruti: Youth participatory action research pedagogy." March 2015. New Orleans, LA.

American Anthropological Association. "How to Construct Citizens for a New Democracy: Moving from a neoliberal policy by using participatory art and civic action." Co-presenters: Gregory Tanaka & D' Andrea Robinson. December 2014. Washington, DC.

National Art Education Association. "Art Unbound." March 2014. San Diego, CA.

National Art Education Association. "Young People Doing Dead Time." March 2014. San Diego, CA.

National Association for Multicultural Education. "Professional Development Conference Institute: School-to-Prison Pipeline, The Role of Teaching, and the Transformative Role of Arts-Based Engagement. Co-presenters: Dr. Patty Bode, Dr. Christine Clark, and three Gateway to College students. November 2013. Oakland, CA.

American Educational Research Association. "Poverty and the School-to-Prison Pipeline: Disrupting, dismantling and excavating the pipeline process." May 2013. San Francisco, CA.

National Art Education Association. "Jung, Zizek, and Foucault Walk Into A Juvie: A one act play." March 2013. Fort Worth, TX

National Art Education Association. "Studying the Unstudied Imagination of the Avant-Garde." March 2012. New York, NY.

National Art Education Association. "Unlocking the Light: Video presentation of artist educators collaborating with incarcerated youth and educators." Co-presented with Dr. Patty Bode. March 2011. Seattle, WA.

National Art Education Association. "Incarcerated Youth and Integrated Arts Education: Social justice, the school-to-prison pipeline, and teacher development." Co-presented with Dr. Patty Bode. April 2010. Baltimore, MD.

National Art Education Association. "Incarcerated Youth and Arts Education" Co-presented with Dr. Patty Bode. April 2009. Minneapolis, MN.

Teacher Educators for Children with Behavioral Disabilities. "Arts -Integration in Juvenile Justice Settings." November 2008. Tempe, AZ.

Professional Development for Arts Educators. "Unlocking the Light in Massachusetts Department of Youth Services Teachers." October 2008. Washington, DC.

National Arts in Criminal Justice Conference. "Begin by Building a Coalition: Drawing a circle around islands of inspiration in Massachusetts." October 2007. Philadelphia, PA.

Massachusetts Department of Youth Services Professional Development Conference. September 2006. Keynote, "Arts in Every Classroom." September 2006. Worcester, MA.