

Skills

Recent fully-funded college graduate with a strong interest in the visual arts/design, education + communication. Eager to continue pursuit of a design + merchandising career with communication and teamwork across a creative company.

Abilities in: Product Development | Design | Sourcing | Costing | Trend Research | Microsoft Outlook | Microsoft Office | Social Media | Adobe Photoshop | Adobe Illustrator | Curriculum Development | Education | Retail, Domestic + International | Strategic Growth | Recruiting, Artists + Instructors | Web Development | Community Arts | Community Involvement | Events |

Professional Work History

- 2017 (6 mo) Product Developer – footwear, Women’s Dress + Casual departments, Payless Shoesource, Topeka, KS**
** affected by 11/17 company-wide layoff (following Chapter 11 bankruptcy and elimination of department roles)*
- Research predicted + current footwear trends to implement into new development, collaborate with graphic designer + outside departments to ensure consistency in trend-right ideas across the company
 - Drive initial footwear concepts to production, assess the fit/finesse/design accuracy of development samples, finalize adjustments/corrections of confirmation samples with merchandising team
 - Act as a liaison across two departments (dress, casuals) between the corporate merchandising teams + overseas factory/costing teams to:
 - solve problems (MOQs, sample requests, material adjustments, color corrections, cost-saving alternatives)
 - negotiate costing (to remain competitive + hold the Payless brand’s initiative)
 - communicate merchant’s vision so ideas/products are developed in a timely manner
- 2017, 16 Teaching Assistant + Intern, Ah Haa School for the Arts, Telluride, CO (10 weeks in summer, 40 hrs/wk)**
- Assisted a lead teacher in the instruction, demonstration and preparation of youth visual arts camp classes (screen printing + relief printmaking, mixed media 2D, drawing + painting, clay) + adult art classes (silversmithing/jewelry and printmaking)
 - Served as the as-needed substitute administrative assistant, prepared + collaborated with the Ah Haa team for the annual art auction, marketed the school’s classes + events via Instagram + local promotion, helped run monthly art walk events, + install/de-install artwork in the school’s Daniel Tucker gallery
- 2016-17 Marketing + Programming Assistant, Leaping Llamas Artisan Shop, Topeka, KS**
- Brainstormed short + long-term art classes/workshops for youth + adults, gathered necessary art supplies + recruited instructors, taught classes (printmaking + painting), designed seasonal class catalogs/monthly class + workshop flyers, updated social media/website, e-mailed bi-weekly newsletters, maintained classrooms
 - Assisted gallery by: visual merchandising/rotating new art works, meeting with current + potential artists on consignment, performing sales, tracking inventories, setting up for art walks/special events, carrying out general office duties/upkeep of gallery spaces

- 2016 / fall + winter** **Glass Production Artist, Prairie Glass Studio, Topeka, KS**
- Cut + assembled glass in preparation for fusing, assisted fused glass private parties + classes
- 2014-17** **Member, Board of Directors, ARTSConnect, Topeka, KS**
- 501(c)3 public arts organization which arranges First Friday Art Walks + community murals, awards local grants + honors, + develops events/fundraisers to enhance art awareness in the community
- 2017, 2016** **Tutor (private), Western Art History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**
- Tutor (private), writing, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS**
- Interview Consultant (1 of 7), Barbara L. Buzick art scholarship, Washburn University, Topeka, KS**
- 2015** **Intern, NOTO Arts Center, Topeka, KS**
- Directly worked with director in developing course catalogue, assisted art classes + First Friday events, contacted exhibiting artists + instructors, + helped curator install new exhibitions in the Morris Gallery
- 2015 / fall** **Educational Assistant, Arrowmont School of Arts + Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN**
- Assisted in national + local events, maintain some facilities
- 2015 / winter** **Artist's assistant, Louis Copt, Lawrence, KS**
- Contacted galleries, museums, magazines + sources for advertising, maintain website + social media
- Gallery Attendant, Mulvane Art Museum, Topeka, KS**
- 2015, 2014** **Apprentice, Great Mural Wall with Dave Loewenstein, Topeka, KS**
- Researched with the community, developed a theme + design, prepared the outdoor wall, designed + painted the mural by guidance of the lead artist
- President, Washburn Art Team of United Potters, Topeka, KS**
- Directed meetings + public art-creating events, established calendar, requested funding + assigned officers tasks
- 2014 / spring** **Intern, ARTSConnect, Topeka, KS**
- Assisted with community-arts events + fundraisers, copy-edited + revised documents, delivered marketing materials to art walk businesses, communicated to the public via social networking
- Assistant muralist, Topeka Mural Project, Meadows Elementary School, Topeka, KS**
- 2012-13** **Graphic designer + art auction coordinator, Washburn Review, Washburn University, Topeka, KS**
- Education**
- 2015** BFA with concentration in printmaking, *magna cum laude*, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2014 / spring** Provinciale Hogeschool Limburg, Hasselt, Belgium
- Presentations**
- 2015-2017** *Portraiture*, technical demonstration, North Fairview Elementary, Topeka, KS (4 presentations over 3 years)
- 2016** *Post-Grad Opportunities*, invited lecturer for art department classes, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2015** *Educational Assistants Slide Presentation*, Arrowmont School of Arts + Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN
- Void*, gallery talk, solo exhibition, John R. Adams Gallery, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2014** *Study Abroad Experiences*, International House orientation, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2014** *My Experience in Belgium*, Washburn Transformational Experience scholarship presentation, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2013** *Malta*, gallery talk about a documentary photography trip to Malta, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

Volunteer Work

- 2016** Art installer + curator, "Concealed Revealed" Art Auction, YWCA, Topeka, KS
- 2014-16** ARTSConnect Arty Awards, Topeka Performing Arts Center, Topeka, KS
- 2012-15** Director, "Throwing Night" community event, Washburn Art Team of United Potters, Topeka, KS
Executive board member, Washburn Art Student Association, Topeka, KS
- 2014** "Imagine Art for a Lifetime" 90th anniversary gala, Mulvane Art Museum, Topeka, KS
- 2011-14** Assistant to workshops, High School Art Day, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- encaustic painting with instructor Carolyn Berry
- 2013, 2012** Mulvane Mountain/Plains Art Fair, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
Aaron Douglas Art Fair, Topeka, KS
- 2012, 2011** Assistant President, Washburn Art Team of United Potters, Topeka, KS

Scholarships, Awards

- 2011-15** Barbara L. Buzick art scholarship, full tuition + residency, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
Honor Roll, Dean's (2012-2014), President's (2011 + 2015), Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2015** Who's Who Among Students in Universities + Colleges
- 2012-15** International Programs scholarship, Peru, 2015, Malta, 2013, Greece + Turkey, 2012, Washburn University International House, Topeka, KS
- 2014-15** Wise Academic Scholarship, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2014** Washburn Transformational Experience scholarship, Belgium (semester abroad), Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2013-14** Betty Rea Burnett Academic Scholarship, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2013** Art Department scholarship, for attending Southern Graphics International printmaking conference, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2012-13** Trull Academic Scholarship, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
- 2011-12** Desmond WEA Scholarship
Geneva Seybold Endowment Fund Grant
- 2011** Valedictorian (class of 2011), Free State High School, Lawrence, KS

Selected Exhibitions

- 2017, 2016** *Annual Art Auction*, group exhibition, Ah Haa School for the Arts, Telluride, CO
- 2017, 16, 15** *Concealed Revealed*, group exhibition, YWCA, Topeka, KS
- 2015** *Terra Verde*, group exhibition, NOTO Arts Place, Topeka, KS
VOIDS/BARRIERS, solo exhibition, Mana Bar + Gallery, Lawrence, KS
VOID, solo exhibition, BFA Thesis Exhibition, John R. Adams Gallery, Washburn University, Topeka, KS
Featured Artist: Ashley Russell, solo exhibition, The Green Room Gallery, Kansas Public Radio, Lawrence, KS
- 2015, 13, 12** *Washburn University Student Art Show*, group exhibition (juried), Mulvane Art Museum, Topeka, KS
- 2014** *Bodies Immersed*, group exhibition, Gym Exhibition Hall, Hasselt, Belgium
- 1 of 4 curators/artists
- 2012** *Student Exhibition*, group exhibition, Topeka Art Guild, Topeka, KS
- 1st place, *Peppers*

Print Media

- 2015** Lawrence Journal World, article, *Wall-to-Wall Work*, Lawrence, KS
https://issuu.com/lawrencejournal-world/docs/lawrence_journal-world_060915
Mulvane Art Museum, student exhibition, *The Leaf I found* etching, postcard image, Topeka, KS
Kansas Public Radio, article, *KPaRtist – Ashley Russell*, February, Lawrence, KS
<http://kansaspublicradio.org/blog/kpr-staff/kpartist-ashley-russell>
Washburn University Bod Talk, article, *#ThisIsAnIChabod: Ashley Russell*, January, Topeka, KS
<https://www.facebook.com/WashburnUniversityNews/posts/872215236155735:0>
Washburn University, International Programs, *Photo Essay 2014: Ashley Russell*, ongoing, Topeka, KS
<http://www.washburn.edu/academics/international-programs/study-abroad/photo-essay-2014/russell-ashley.html>
Washburn University, Art Department, *Notable Achievements*, ongoing, Topeka, KS
<http://www.washburn.edu/academics/college-schools/arts-sciences/departments/art/notable-achievements.html>
- 2014-15** ARTSConnect, First Friday Artwalk map cover image, *An Egg*, December-February, Topeka, KS
- 2012** Inscape Magazine, *Press*, monoprint, Washburn University, Topeka, KS

Travels/Other Education

- 2017, 2016** Ah Haa School for the Arts, multiple workshops (silver ring-making, monoprinting, indigo), Telluride, CO
- 2015** Arrowmont School of Arts + Crafts, 3 workshops (basketry, weaving, textile surface design), Gatlinburg, TN
Southern Graphics Conference International 2015, 2013, printmaking
Lawrence Arts Center, *Print + Pages* workshop with Karen Kunc
NOTO Arts Place, *Ragazagar* mural workshop with Isaiah Zagar, scholarship recipient, Topeka, KS
- 2014** Belgium, printmaking
- 2012-2015** Short-term study abroad courses in: Peru (studio art), Malta (documentary photography), Greece/Turkey (art history)

Other Travels

- 2012-2015** Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Italy, Croatia, The Netherlands, Gozo, Canada

Collections

- Rudolph Stein, professional cellist, Orange County, CA
Kayleigh Weir, art teacher, Chicago, IL
Anonymous supporter, Telluride, CO
Tracy Sollitto, Naples, FL
Zach Snethen, architect, Topeka, KS
Marydorsey Wanless, artist + professor emerita, Topeka, KS
Don + Edie Snethen, owners of NOTO ArtsPlace, Topeka, KS
Wendy Stein, band director, St. John's Military School, Salina, KS