

Building a Mindset For Access(ability) and Art(ability): A Case Study in Art Teacher Education

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An art education program in an urban art college shares its successes and challenges for envisioning holistic and global ways of preparing art educators. Faculty will ask: how and where does quality art education occur; what are innovative ways to prepare art educators to think about accessibility for their students; how might philosophy, disability theory, and student-centered pedagogy inform coursework; and, how will we maintain flexibility to ensure ongoing dialogue with and responsiveness to new trends in the field? As exemplars, faculty will present on courses in: (1) STEAM for Special Populations in which students unite digital storytelling, 3D design, robotics, and filmmaking within a traditional art curriculum, and experiment with new and old technologies; (2) hands-on practicums that model universal design and focus on working with diverse populations in different settings; and (3) graduate-level research that expands understanding of the physical, cognitive, social, and emotional exceptionalities in us all.

Bios:

Amanda Newman-Godfrey is a full-time faculty in art education at Moore. She is an ABD Doctoral Candidate in Art and Art Education at Teachers College Columbia University. She has been an art educator in schools, state agencies, and in higher education for 22 years. She has presented at state and national conferences, was the recipient of the Doctoral Dissertation Grant for outstanding research, and was named a “Rising Star in Higher Education” by TC Today magazine. She is the co-author of a forthcoming chapter on creative arts curriculum for students with Autism. Amanda will defend her dissertation in Autumn 2017.

Lauren Stichter is the Director of the Masters in Art Education with an Emphasis in Special Populations program at Moore College of Art & Design. She is the president-elect for the National Art Education Association Special Needs in Art Education Interest Group, the SNAE Chairperson for the Pennsylvania Art Education Association and a board member of the Council for Exceptional Children Division of the Arts. Lauren has presented regionally and nationally for organizations like The Kennedy Center VSA Program, National Art Education Association, Pennsylvania Art Education Association, The World Congress on Special Needs Education, and The Council for Exceptional Children.

Kate received her B.A. in Studio Arts and Art History from the College of Charleston, her M.A. in Art and Art Education from Teachers College, Columbia University, and is a Doctoral Candidate at Teachers College, Columbia University. For ten years she has been the art teacher at The Gillen Brewer School, a pre-school and elementary school for students with special needs, in New York City. Kate has also been an adjunct instructor at Moore College of Art for the past three years. Kate regularly conducts workshops and presents at professional conferences focusing on art and disabilities, STEAM, and interdisciplinary learning.