

Elody Gyekis – Résumé

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Education

Penn State (2004-2009): Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ceramics and Drawing/Painting, Minors in Sociology and Civic and Community Engagement. **GPA: 4.0** within major; 3.99 total.

Schreyer Honors Scholar – Honors in Fine Art and Civic and Community Engagement
Arts and Architecture Student Marshal, Dec. 2009. **“highest GPA in the college.”**

Penns Valley High School, 2005 graduation: Academic Prep, GPA 4.0.

Pennsylvania Governor’s School for the Arts, 2003: Ceramics Major and Dance minor.

Exhibitions

2015

- **“Silvas Carpaticas”**. Group Show. 2/15. Dacia Gallery. Manhattan, NY.
- **“Mythological”**. Solo Show. 5/15-9/15. Art Alley, HUB-Robeson Center. Univ. Park, PA.
- **“Elody Gyekis - Selected Works”**. Solo Show. 6/15-7/15. Gigi’s. State College, PA.

2014

- **“Myths and Legends”**. Group Show. 1/14-5/14. Annemarie Sculpture Garden in Association with the **Smithsonian Institute. Received Award.** Curator: Melissa Langley.
- **Benefit Exhibition for BalletX**. Group Show. 7/14. Bridgette Mayer Gallery, Phila., PA.
- **“W.Here We Are” PSU Alumni Show**. Group Show. 7/14. Zoller Gallery, Univ. Park, PA.
- **“Journeying Together”**. Group Show. 6/14-8/14 WITF Gallery, Harrisburg, PA.
- **“Cuentas de Alas”**. Solo Show. 7/14-8/14. Yellow Wall Gallery, Harrisburg, PA.
- **“Mythological”**. Solo Show. 8/14-9/14. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.
- **“Cuentas de Alas”**. Solo Show. 8/14-9/14 Cherry Alley, Lewisburg PA.
- **“Tapestry of Vivid Colors”**. Group Show. 11/3-12/19. Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA.
- **“Elody Gyekis Paints Romania”**. Solo Show. 12/1-12/30. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.

2013

- **SUVA Juried BFA Show**. 6/13-8/13. Florence Quarter Gallery. Tucson, AZ.
- **“Journeying Together, Five Women’s Passion for the Arts”**. 12/12-2/13. East Wing Rotunda, Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA.

2012

- **“Living Collections”**. Solo Show. 5/12-6/12. Craft Chemistry, Syracuse, NY.
- **“Collections: The Things that are Precious”** Collaborative Exhibit with Natalia Pilato and Dana Morrison. 2/12. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.

Previous

- **“Precious Accumulation”**. Solo Show. 3/10. Philadelphia, PA.
- **“Making Home – At Home and Abroad”**. Collaborative exhibition with Stasya Panova. 3/09. Exhibited in Sparks Gallery, Penn State University and Spark Gallery, Syracuse, NY
- **“The Body in Question”**. Solo Show. 4/09. Patterson Gallery, Univ. Park, PA
- **“The Body in Question”**. Solo Show. 7/09. Elk Creek Café, Millheim, PA

Artist Residencies

Green Drake Gallery and Art Center, Millheim, PA. Nov 2010-present.

Dacia Gallery of NYC Summer Residency in Sibiu, Romania 2014

Curatorial Work

- “Arts Across the Ocean”. 9/13. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.
- “Collections: The Things that are Precious”. 2/12. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.
- “Under 30 – Young Artists”. 10/11-11/11. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.
- “Beyond the Horizons”. 7/11. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.
- “In Celebration of the Human Figure”. 8/11. Green Drake Gallery, Millheim, PA.

Grants, Awards, and Fellowships

- **Funding for the “Dreams Take Flight Community Mural” 2010:** grants from: Ferguson Foundation, Center County Community Foundation, State College Borough, etc. total: \$30,000.
- **Funding for Valley Roots Community Mural Project:** YP4 granted \$1,000; SHC granted \$500; Centre County Community Foundation granted \$3,500.
- **Ingrid P. Holtzman Award 2011:** for enhancing the aesthetic appearance of State College (mural)
- **The Oswald Award 2010** - for best academic and artistic achievement in the school of visual art
- **Golumbic Award 2008** – awarded to PSU student with highest design achievement.
- **School of Visual Arts Undergraduate Juried Exhibitions Zoller Gallery:** Received one of five awards for best work in show in 2006, 2008, and 2009
- **Penn State’s Undergraduate Juried Research Exhibitions 2006 and 2009:** First Prize in Arts and Humanities and Honorable Mention in Information Literacy. First Prize in Public Scholarship.
- **Evan Pugh Scholar Award – 2007, 2008.** 3rd and 4th yr students in the top 0.5% of their class.
- **Young People For (YP4) 2008 Fellow** - YP4 is a leadership development program for social change.
- Funding for preliminary research in Russia and China for my collaborative thesis exhibition in visual art: **Schreyer Honors College Summer 2007 Research Scholarship:** \$1,000; and **Arts and Architecture Opportunity Fund for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities:** \$600

Teaching Experience

- **Portraiture and Still Lives from Life:** 2-day class at the Honduran National Gallery of Art, 2016.
- **Painting From Life:** 1 week Bilingual painting workshop in Paraiso, Honduras, 2016.
- **Broma Sole Artist Residency:** 11-day intensive painting workshop in Costa Rica. 2015.
- **Private Painting Classes and Lessons:** Private classes in painting from 2008-present.
- **Painting Workshops at Dancing Bear Lodge:** Workshops for intermediate painters, 2009.
- **Adult Literacy Training Corps, Certified Tutor, 2008.**
- **Teaching Assistant to Residential Assistant (ATTRA) for Pennsylvania Governor’s School for the Arts (PGSA) 2007:** Teaching assistant for all ceramics classes.
- **Teaching Assistant Supervisor, Race and Ethnic Relations (SOC 119), Penn State. Fall 2006**
- **Teaching Assistant, Race and Ethnic Relations (SOC 119), Penn State, Spring 2006:** Co-facilitated weekly dialogue on race relations for two groups of about a dozen students each.
- **Teaching Assistant, Intro to Sociology (SOC 001), Penn State, Spring 2006.**

Public Art Projects

Since 2005 I have been organizing and creating large scale murals, maximizing community engagement by involving community members (including prisons, churches, universities, schools, senior citizens, etc.) in the brainstorming, painting and celebration of the murals. In recent projects I have left the organizing to others and acted only as lead artist, designer, and consultant, teaching my process to other groups.

- **“The Book Benches of Centre County”** Artistic Director for 25 fiberglass sculptural benches in the shape of books painted based on community generated themes by various artists. 2016.
- **“Toms River”** Mural, 2013, Toms River, NJ.
- **“Colors of Music”** Mural, 2012, 45’ by 14’, State College, PA. over 500 participants.
- **“Our Lady of Victory”** Mural, 2012, 4’ by 8’, State College, PA.
- **“Huntingdon County Arts Council Anniversary”** Mural, 2012, 50’ by 10’Huntingdon, PA
- **“Globe”** Mural, 2012, 4’ by 7’ Schreyer Honors College, Penn State Campus, PA.
- **“Dreams Take Flight” Mural, 2010, 170’ x 14’.** State College, PA. Over 700 participants
- **“Children are the Seeds of the Future” Mural, 2009, 60’ x 28’.** Williamsport, PA.
- **“Valley Roots Community Mural,”** 2008, 30’ by 14’, Millheim, PA. Over 200 participants
- **Keeping Pennsylvania Beautiful (KPB) Internships 2005, 2006.** inner-city Harrisburg, PA
 - **Mulberry Street Bridge Mural, 2005-06, 296’ x 6.4’,** Over 200 participants.
 - **Derry Street Mural, 2006, 20’w x 25’h:** Over 200 participants.

Presentations and Publications

- **Pennsylvania Public Health Association (PPHA) Annual Conference, Harrisburg, Oct 5 2010.** Juried Poster Session Presentation of “Illustration of the Rich Potential for Collaboration between Public Health and Community Arts.”
- **Colloquium for American Literature and Culture Speaker Series, NYU, Sept. 23, 2009.** “Maximizing Community Engagement in Mural Projects – Techniques for Community Murals.”
- **National Art Education Association. 2007 Conference.** March 14-18; New York, NY. Live the Conversation: How a Community Mural Project Became a Dialogue for Community Healing.
- **National Art Education Association, 2006 Conference.** March 22-26; Chicago, Illinois. Community mural projects, direct interaction and relationship building.
- **Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful Annual Summit. Sept 2006;** Harrisburg, PA: Community Art, Pride & Responsibility.
- **Pennsylvania Art Education Association, 2006 Conference.** October; Erie, PA. Live the Conversation: How Community Mural Project Became a Dialogue for Community Healing.
- **Pennsylvania Art Education Association, 2005 Annual Conference.** October 20-23; State College, PA., Direct Address, Interaction and Relationship Building; A New Harrisburg Mural.
- **Panel Discussion –“Grass Roots Arts Advocacy”** Leadership Centre Country, April 2012
- **“Making Home – At Home and Abroad.”** Art Honors Thesis, 11/2009, electronic publication.
- **“Community Murals as Processes of Collaborative Engagement: Case Studies in Urban and Rural Pennsylvania.”** Civic and Community Engagement Honors Thesis, 11/2009, electronic publication.