

# MELISSA McBRIDE

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## EDUCATION

**Columbia College Chicago** | Chicago, Illinois

**Master of Arts in Teaching, Visual Arts Education** | September 2014 – August 2016

- Graduated summa cum laude with 4.0 GPA
- Follett Graduate Merit Award (full tuition) academic scholarship recipient

**University of Miami** | Coral Gables, Florida

**Bachelor of Arts in Art/Studio Art** | August 2005 – December 2009

- George Edgar Merrick (1/3 tuition) academic scholarship recipient
- Study abroad, fall semester 2009: Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**George Markham Consulting** | Chicago, Illinois

**Technology Consultant** | September 2022 – August 2023

- Worked with organizations involved in Montessori school leadership and professional development to support technology implementation for online meetings, in-person conferences, and digital communications
- Hosted and facilitated Zoom webinars for courses of 80–90 teachers and administrators for Montessori Medical Partnership for Inclusion
- Managed the website and email distribution list for Montessori Association of North Carolina

**Chicago Public Schools** | Chicago, Illinois

**Visual Art Teacher** | August 2016 – September 2022

Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center (High School), 2018–2022

- Taught students in grades 9–12 in Digital Imaging (Graphic Design) and Art I
- Designed and implemented a new course – Honors Art II: Studio Painting and Printmaking
- Created and managed the fine arts department website and social media accounts: vonarts.weebly.com | @vonsteubenarts
- Conceived and organized *Night Out with Von Arts*, which included physical and digital art exhibitions and integrated performances from students in our drama, choir, and band programs
- Served as a teacher leader on the school-wide *Climate and Culture Team* for four years, focused on providing social/emotional supports to students and faculty to improve school climate
- Represented and led union members as an elected delegate to the Chicago Teachers Union
- Facilitated the *Student Voice Committee*, coaching student leaders on how to use data to drive decision-making and formulate change ideas to improve the school for all stakeholders

Farnsworth Elementary School, 2017–2018

- Taught kindergarten through eighth grade visual arts to 600+ students per week
- Organized *Family Art Night*, which included an art exhibition of work from every student in the school, live musical performances, and teacher and parent-facilitated art activities for families
- Developed adaptive art projects weekly for students with severe and profound disabilities

- Coached spring and fall seasons of *Girls on the Run* for 3rd-5th grade girls, focused on building self-esteem through practicing mental and physical wellness and positive relationship building
- Served on a panel of teachers that was interviewed in pursuit of exemplary Supportive Schools Certification, which was subsequently awarded

#### George Rogers Clark Elementary School, 2016–2017

- Taught kindergarten through eighth grade visual arts to 225 students per week
- Won a competitive \$15,000 *Creative Schools Award* to implement an original hip-hop theater residency program for grades 5–8 in partnership with Music House, Inc.
- Cohort member of *ATLAS: Arts Teachers Leading Achievement and Success*, a CPS professional development cohort focused on technology integration in the fine arts
- Teacher Chair of *Student Voice, Engagement and Civic Life Committee*
- Sponsored *Global Voices* after school club for grades K–8, a chapter of WE Schools focused on volunteerism and civic engagement

#### Chicago Teachers Union | Chicago, Illinois

##### Summer Organizing Intern | July 2021

- Worked alongside CTU staff and fellow interns to develop grassroots campaigns to solicit constituent feedback around ways to improve school safety and members' jobs
- Learned from established union leaders about current issues facing CPS and CTU, including funding, special education, sustainable community schools, and the fight for green schools
- Organized direct action campaigns including a demonstration in front of City Hall during the July 2021 Board of Education meeting; spoke directly to the Board during public comment regarding school safety in the time of COVID-19 and appropriate allocation of emergency funds

#### The Art Institute of Chicago | Chicago, Illinois

##### Technology Intern, Museum Education Department | September 2014 – December 2014

- Collaborated with museum staff in the education department to explore relevant technologies and develop curriculum and resources for a one-day workshop for “tweens” exploring the use of soft-circuit technology in handmade puppets

#### SitStayRead | Chicago, Illinois

##### Volunteer Coordinator | May 2013 – December 2013

- Recruited, scheduled and managed volunteers for all school literacy programs and special events
- Facilitated monthly Volunteer Orientation and Literacy Training sessions for 10–20 new volunteers
- Used Salesforce to track volunteer training, job signups, hours, and contact information
- Utilized Salesforce reporting to capture data about volunteers, programs, and donors
- Updated web content related to volunteer department and create online job listings, enabled automated sign-up for volunteer jobs for the first time in the organization's history
- Created dynamic communications in Constant Contact to keep key contact groups informed
- Managed summer outreach initiatives including establishing a calendar of festivals and other events, recruiting and scheduling volunteers, managing volunteers on-site, and materials prep

## SKILLS & INTERESTS

- Technologically savvy and fluent in Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, Windows and Mac OS and graphic design in Adobe Creative Suite, Canva, and more
- Working proficiency in Spanish; conversational Brazilian Portuguese
- Self-taught ukulele player, formally taught pianist, and enthusiastic dancer and singer of all styles
- Uses free time to explore the outdoors, create custom gifts, and enjoy the company of family, friends, and animals – especially foster dogs and my rescued Yorkie, Martini