

ALI BLAKE

hi.alirblake@gmail.com

blakeae@bc.edu

EDUCATION

Boston College,

Lynch School of Education and Human Development

Ph.D. Student, Curriculum + Instruction

Expected 2024

Specializations: Critical Perspectives on Schooling; Math, Science, and Technology

Harvard Graduate School of Education

Ed.M., Arts in Education

2018

Rhode Island School of Design

BFA with honors, Textiles

2014

minors: Gender, Sexuality and Race; Environmental Studies

RESEARCH

Graduate Researcher

December 2019 - Present

Boston College Lynch School

- As a researcher on the project Learning to Escape (P.I. Dr. Jon Wargo), I am part of a collective exploration of immersive, collaborative learning in escape rooms.
- Colleague Melita Morales and I are focusing primarily on the material-participant interactions.

Research Assistantship

July 2018 - October 2018

Creative Computing Lab, Harvard Graduate School of Education

- With the project Getting Unstuck (P.I. Dr. Karen Brennan), I co-facilitated a 3 week online professional development course designed for K-12 educators interested in bringing creative computing with Scratch into the classroom
- Developed form and content for participation profiles for subset of participants for qualitative analysis

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Tracing the Shape of Sound and Story: Examining Sonorous Systems of Interaction in Learning to Escape (Accepted, Meeting Cancelled)

Annual Meeting, American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA

April 2020

Entangled Environments: Sensing the Material That Makes and is Made

Ethnography in Education Research Forum, PENN Graduate School of Education

February 2020

Alternate, For Now: Imagining + Creating the Worlds We Want to Welcome Us Home

Alumni of Color Conference, Harvard Graduate School of Education

March 2019

Getting Unstuck: 21 Days of Scratch

Scratch Conference, MIT Media Lab

July 2018

Job Talk: Reimagining Educational Spaces

Alumni of Color Conference, Harvard Graduate School of Education

March 2018

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Design Studio (Learning Engineering)

Teaching Assistant, Boston College Lynch School 2019-present

Art, Design, and Learning in Public

Teaching Fellow, Harvard Graduate School of Education 2019-present

Figure Modeling Marathon

Teaching Assistant, Department of Foundation Studies, RISD 2011-2014

3D Foundations

Teaching Assistant, Department of Foundation Studies, RISD 2011-2013

Fibers and Dyeing

Teaching Assistant, Department of Textiles, RISD 2012

PRE K-12 TEACHING

NuVu Studio

September 2018 - Present

PreVu Program, ages 5-7

- I co-design and co-facilitate weekly sessions around imaginative themes to frame activities in which students dive into hands-on design projects exploring engineering, science, technology, art, and beyond
- Within our maker studio, we explore the design process, technologies, and a variety of analog and digital tools and materials

Open Door Arts MA, Creative Outlook On Learning COOL Schools October 2017 - Present

Community Academy of Science and Health

Boston Green Academy

- I design and facilitate year-long, weekly, project-based creative learning experiences rooted in exploring content area ideas and self-expression with students with disabilities in substantially separate Boston Public Schools high school classrooms

Providence CityArts for Youth

March 2016 - August 2017

AfterZone Fashion Futures, STEM Summer Camp and After School

- During the summers of 2016 and 2017 I proposed, co-designed and co-facilitated 5 week intensive STEM explorations of fashion design and identity, where 28 middle school youth created their own outfits. I also taught condensed versions during the school year in addition to various textiles-based programs with both middle school and elementary-aged youth

Providence CityArts for Youth

August 2014 - June 2016

Turnaround Teaching Artist Project, AmeriCorps

- As Resident Teaching Artist at Roger Williams Middle School, I designed and facilitated short-term and year-long project-based residencies with Design Thinking frameworks to explore content area in collaboration with Math and English classroom teachers
- Designed and facilitated after school Creative Scholars Studio, an arts-based exploration of Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards

DownCity Design

March 2015 - August 2015

AfterZone STEM Summer Camp Design/Build Program

- As part of a 3-educator team, I co-designed and co-facilitated a 4 week intensive design/build program during which 28 middle school youth designed and built an outdoor learning space for their school

GALLERY EDUCATION

Open Door Gallery

Open Door Arts Massachusetts

September 2017 - 2019

Boston, Worcester Art Museum

- I curated the exhibitions and programs of two gallery locations
- Designed and facilitated visioning process with internal staff, key community partners, and the public
- Designed and facilitated studio programming and culminating exhibition at Worcester Art Museum
- Curated exhibitions:
- Fashion Accessibility Project; What I See; Bringing Outside Inside; Nothing is Wasted in God's Economy; In the Colophony, a Sticky Mess; Dreams and Tings; Brains are cool (even when they hurt); Hymn to the Body

EDUCATION LEADERSHIP

Residence Director, First Year Area

Rhode Island School of Design

August 2016 - August 2017

- Co-managed the First Year Housing Area of 400 students and co-supervised 18 undergraduate student Resident Advisors (RA) and 1 Advocate for Inclusion in Residence (AIR) and their facilitation of the Residential Curriculum: Curate
- Served as Administrator-On-Call for residential campus community of 1400 on a rotating basis
- Established collaborations with local arts-based community organizations, including a weekly series of art-making workshops taught by undergraduate student staff
- Served as a Conduct Administrator with a transformative justice framework

HONORS AND AWARDS

AmeriCorps Education Award

2016

RISD Parents' Council Award

2013

Textron Fellowship

2012, 2013

Kuhlman Foundation Scholarship

2012, 2013

SERVICE

Boston College Dept. of Teaching, Curriculum, and Society

Doctoral Advisory Committee Student Representative

2020 - present

Boston College Graduate Employees Union

Bargaining Committee member

2020 - present

Coders Beyond Bars Youth

Designer and Facilitator

2018 - 2019

RISD Residence Life Inclusion Committee

Advisor

2016 - 2017

Justice Talks Civic Reflection Series

Facilitator

2016

RISD Conduct Board

Student Representative

2012 - 2013