

McKenna N. Gagnon

860-786-2324 - Southbridge, MA - mckenna.gagnon@gmail.com Southbridge, MA 01510

Education

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT May 2024 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Industrial Design
Concentration GPA 3.89 Summa Cum Laude **Awards and Honors:** Fine Arts Talent Scholarship; The School of Fine Arts Dean's List (2020-2023); CADC (Connecticut Art Directors Club) Annual Award; New England Scholar (2021, 2022); Most Daring Award 2024 for Senior Project Design

Relevant Coursework: Industrial Design

Senior Project: Developed, implemented, and constructed an interactive display for adults to interact with a kaleidoscope experience. The purpose is to bring the child out of the adult. Currently it is on display for future students but eventually will be placed in a children's museum (Spring 2024)

Industrial Design Process and Practice: Worked collaboratively with fellow students to develop an inclusive swing set design for the UConn Storrs campus, commissioned by the University Planning, Design, and Construction team. Produced comprehensive conceptual and technical drawings, subsequently presenting them to the client for approval. (Spring 2022)

Industrial Design Digital Fabrication: Utilized Rhinoceros software, CNC machining, 3D printing, and traditional woodworking techniques to design, construct, and install an engaging interactive kaleidoscope in the Art Building hallway. (Spring 2022)

Industrial Design Materials and Techniques: Acquired and applied expertise in wood fabrication, carving, finishing, foam carving and hard-coating techniques through self-directed projects. (Spring 2023)

Skills

Software: Rhinoceros; SolidWorks; Adobe Illustrator, After Effects, Photoshop, and InDesign

Fabrication: CNC machining; 3D printing; wood fabrication (drills, bandsaw, mitre saw, sanders); Laser Cutter, Ceramics

Technical: Microsoft office + Adobe acrobat + Google Drive (Docs, sheets, slides) + zoom meetings

Work Experience

Black Dog Bar And Grille, Putnam, CT June 2020 to Present *Server*

- Provided prompt and attentive service, catering to customer needs with precision.
- Demonstrated strong multitasking/time management abilities to efficiently handle multiple tasks simultaneously.
- Employed effective communication skills to address and resolve issues promptly.

The Hound Store, Worcester, MA August 2019-May 2020 *College Bookstore Employee*

- Jobs included cashier, fulfilled and shipped online order, restocked merchandise, helped students find books to buy, order, or rent and did all these duties with excellent customer service

Roseland Art Camp, Woodstock, CT July 2019 *Developer*

- Developed and implemented a two week art camp experience for children ages five through twelve with each session teaching ten children
- Orchestrated an inspiring art camp experience aimed at encouraging students to explore new and creative avenues.
- Fostered individual artistic expression daily by facilitating discussions on influential artists.
- Guided students in discovering their unique creative styles and techniques throughout the camp duration.
- Implemented a comprehensive art camp plan to recruit and register 10 students per session

Art Instructor/ Personal Assistant, Woodstock, CT

June 2018- June 2019

- Gave art lessons to a man in his 90's to encourage a creative outlet while also cooking his meals and administering his medication.
- Planned and executed activities to promote skill and talent development.
- Prepared and gathered materials for detailed lesson plans.

Volunteer Experience

WingStop Art Beautification Project Spring 2023

- Designed and executed a mural for an abandoned building on campus per request of UConn Administration
- Invited by a UConn Industrial Design Professor and worked with a selected group of students
- Part of a selected group
- selected/invited by a UConn Professor

Best Buddies International August 2019 - April 2020

- Part of a college chapter that helps students with special needs by doing activities with them

3D Printing Tutor January 2023 - May 2024

- Helped classmates master the skills needed to run a 3D printer

CCD Teacher at Most Holy Trinity Church August 2016 - May 2018

- Planned and led weekly religious education classes for elementary school students, fostering their understanding of faith and values.
- Developed engaging lesson plans incorporating storytelling, activities, and discussions while strengthening communication skills by explaining complex topics in an accessible way to young students.

Clubs and Organizations

Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) August 2023 - Present

Honors and Awards

Most Daring Award 2024 for Senior Project Design (May 2024)

CADC (Connecticut Art Directors Club) Annual Award (May 2023)

Fine Arts Talent Scholarship

The School of Fine Arts Dean's List (2020-2024)

New England Scholar (2021-2023)

American Legion Girls State Representative (June 2018)