
Amy Tuttle

Amy Tuttle, MA Arts in Transformation, has served communities around the globe as an Arts in Healing facilitator, trainer, and community-based artist for 17+ years. Her experiences range from guiding public art installations, developing and implementing "Arts-Based First Response" protocol for disaster-relief scenarios, and training arts practitioners around the world. Certified Movement Intelligence Teacher and life-long dancer, Tuttle also loves the mind-body connection and strengthening somatic wellness.

Tuttle is based in Cincinnati, OH, USA where she serves as the Executive Director for WordPlay Cincy, an arts-based organization where "stories write the future". She's a member of NOAH (National Organization of Arts in Health), a faculty for the Global Arts in Medicine Institute, Movement & Healing Facilitator with PONES, and Teaching Artist with the Cincinnati Arts Association's "Arts in Healing Program." In her artistic practice, she's constantly in awe of the way the arts can support individuals and communities in personal growth, community-building, and cultural transformation.

Tuttle loves guiding experiences for individuals and groups with a range of themes like: clarifying purpose, healing from challenging experiences, and working with life's various transitions. Tuttle considers her practice a simple+deep process of storytelling to transfer meaning, build bridges of communication, engage across differences, and explore building the world together. She believes the arts can support individuals and communities in personal growth, community-building, and cultural transformation.

Highlights of her career include:

- Leading the training of Lead Teaching Artists on behalf of Artworks Cincinnati to create engaging mural arts programs for the youth in Cincinnati.
- Serving as a "trainer" for a pilot program with BuildaBridge International and UNICEF in Haiti where she provided "Community Arts for Children" training and certification to over 100 Haitian community leaders.
- Presenting a workshop called "My People, My Place" at the national Community Development Association Conference in New Orleans, LA in 2013.

OBJECTIVE

My objective is to facilitate and support arts-based and community-building initiatives that foster healing, growth, and positive identity. My experience and passion is to be engaged in Arts & Healing efforts. I have an MA in Urban Studies: Arts in Transformation. I also have several years of experience with various non-profits in directing programming, community organizing, and asset-based community development. I prefer grassroots and community-led work. My efforts are inspired by relationship-building and storytelling.

EDUCATION

MA, Urban Studies: Arts in Transformation, Eastern University, Philadelphia, PA — 2009-2012

• *Relevant Courses:* Foundations of Community Art, Program Planning, Arts in Healing, Arts in Transformation, Arts in Economic Development, Community Development, Non-Profit Leadership, Cross-Cultural Studies, Resource Management

BA, Psychology & Sociology, Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, OH — 2004-2008

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Administrative Experience-

Executive Director, Senior Director of Programming *WordPlay Cincy*

Cincinnati, OH— September 2019-Current

- Ensure the effective management, funding, staffing, etc of *WordPlay Cincy*.
- Oversee, coach and develop program staff and teaching artists (25 staff members) to ensure the efficacy, sustainability, and increasing the capacity of *WordPlay's* 30+ programs in the community.
- Co-design creative, project-based curricula including aligning impact assessments to program objectives, implementing continuous quality improvement and process documentation.
- Maintain and strengthen existing programmatic partnerships with schools and other community organizations while exploring, screening and developing new collaborations.
- Cultivate outreach opportunities to grow public awareness, engage new students and their families, recruit volunteers and community partners.
- Shepherd the activation of a strengths-based culture among staff, Teaching Artists, students, families and partner organizations.

Board of Trustees and Faculty, *Global Arts in Medicine Fellowship*

September 2020-Current

- Instruction and support of the *Global Arts in Medicine Fellowship* program, which serves 400 practitioners per year in best practice training via a fellowship model.
- Provide feedback on fellow's projects, implementation, and evaluation.
- Keynote and Graduation speaking for Fellowship Sessions.
- Global Delegate representing the United States at the 2023 *Global Arts in Health* convening in Egypt.

Director of Programming & Training, Interim Executive Director, *Indigo Hippo*

Cincinnati, OH— December 2016-September 2019

- Creator and Lead Trainer of "Creative Arts Programming" training and various professional development trainings. I've trained 130+ local leaders via *Indigo Hippo* training and professional

development. I've also mentored and trained 4 professionals to co-lead training and professional developments with Indigo Hippo in a train-the-trainer model.

- Supervision of the development, implementation, and evaluation of curriculum and programming with over 30 community partners.
- As Interim Executive Director, I supervised Storefront Operations, Volunteer Management, Grant-Writing & Development, Community Partnerships, DAAP Co-op communications, and more.
- Writer of 4 licensed Creative Arts curriculum, available to the community at a Pay-What-You-Can scale to support programming efforts.
- Partnership development and collaborative education, including partners like Cincinnati Art Museum, Artworks, and Community Matters.
- Regular supervision of Teaching Artists and programming volunteers.

Art Education Director, The Baker Hunt Art & Cultural Center

Covington, KY— May 2014- August 2016

The mission of Baker Hunt is to provide opportunities for arts education, cultural enrichment, and community-building to the tri-state region.

- Supervision of 60+ instructors in the development, implementation, and evaluation of curriculum and programming.
- Program planning for 4, 8-week long sessions per year. Approximately 250 classes, workshops, and events per year.
- Ensuring the positive experience of 3,500 students per year.

Regional Training Coordinator/Institute Faculty/Artist-on-Call, BuildaBridge International

Philadelphia, PA — 2009-2017

The mission of BuildaBridge International is to engage creative people and the transformative power of the arts, to bring hope and healing to children, families, and communities in the tough places of the world. I have worked with BuildaBridge as an Artist-on-Call, Institute Faculty Member, Trainer, and Regional Training Coordinator. (www.buildabridge.org)

- **Artist on Call**
Provided “transformational arts” direct service and training in defined “areas of need” around the world.
Certified “Artist on Call.”
Certified Crisis Responder with the Red Cross.
Coordinated services to a community in Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the 2010 earthquake.
- **Author, Community Mosaic Model Manual**
Developed a training manual on arts-based placemaking and public art.
Manual has been used by practitioners in the U.S. & abroad, including an “arts relief and development” team serving in Japan after the 2015 earthquake.
- **Developer, Arts Relief & Recovery Simulation Training**
Wrote, developed, and facilitated first-responder arts-based training for disaster relief situations.
Technical writer of “Reroot: A Pocket Curriculum Guide for Arts Relief & Recovery.”

- **Trainer**, BuildaBridge & UNICEF Haiti training 2012
Facilitated 3, 2-week certification courses to 100+ Haitian community leaders on “Community Arts for Children.”
- **Advisor**, International Arts Advisory Council

Community Sustainability Coordinator & Community Engagement Coordinator, Price Hill Will

Cincinnati, OH — 2011-2014

Price Hill Will is a comprehensive community development corporation (CDC) with the mission of strengthening Price Hill through economic development, community engagement and physical revitalization. At Price Hill Will, I coordinated asset-based and community-led environmental and beautification projects. (www.pricehillwill.org).

- Coordinated 150 volunteers, 10 community partners, multiple community assets & resources
- Administered the Price Hill Public Art Survey (2010); a community-led asset-mapping project of public art resources
- Coordinated the following on-going projects: Price Hill People’s Garden, Clean & Green Community Action Team, Robert’s Academy School & Community Garden, & Adopt-A-Spot

Community Interviewer, Starfire Council

Cincinnati, OH — 2012-2013

Starfire is a person-centered organization, focusing on building inclusive lives and communities. Starfire explores neighborhoods and connects with people who have common interests in order to lessen social isolation, and increase togetherness. I worked to connect people within my community to Starfire and to each other as a Community Interviewer. (www.starfirecouncil.org)

- Interviewed over 50 residents in my community
- Created an asset-map of the interviewees interests, commonalities, strengths, and needs
- Connected interviewees to each other and to Starfire University students, fostering relationships, connections, and community projects.

Program Coordinator, Grailville Program & Retreat Center

Loveland, Ohio — 2011-2013

Grailville is the center of an international women’s movement called “The Grail.” Grailville is committed to spiritual search, social transformation, ecological sustainability, and the release of women’s creative energy throughout the world. (www.grailville.org)

- **Community Engagement Highlights:**
Successfully connected Grailville to over 60 community organizations, schools, and community leaders, strengthening external ties and community impact.
- Grailville Trail Art Project

Directed arts-based placemaking project to revitalize 200 acres of trails surrounding property.
Organized over 15 community arts installations on trails.
Recruited over 300 volunteers to implement projects.
Managed Ohio Arts Council/National Endowment of the Arts funding for the project.

- Program Coordination
Planned, marketed, implemented, and evaluated 27 programs for the Good Earth, Good Eats, Good Arts program series, serving over 600 participants. Programs included: community meals, art shows, homebrewing classes, rain garden installation, natural dye making, felting, DIY holidays, cob oven building, art & nature, and reflection-oriented programming.

Director of Social Services, *The African Cultural Alliance of North America*

Philadelphia, OH — 2008-2010

ACANA works to help immigrants, refugees, and asylees in their adjustment and resettlement process in the United States. ACANA was founded in 1999 by a group of African immigrants as a cultural organization to support African artists and musicians and preserve community values and culture within immigrant communities. During my time at ACANA, I facilitated ESL courses, social services, and various cultural programs. (www.acanaus.org)

- Director of Social Services
Directed services for over 1,200 immigrants and refugees, including benefits and job counseling.
Grant writer- for general operating, departmental, and special projects funding.
Instructor- ESL, Adult Education classes, and Citizenship preparation courses.
- African Culture Fest Coordinator
Coordinated funding, programming, and volunteer efforts for the African Culture Fest at Penn's Landing, an annual arts festival that attracts approximately 10,000 individuals.
Participated in the Philadelphia Mural Arts community mural depicting African culture.

Teaching Experience-

Teaching Artist- *Cincinnati Arts Association, Arts & Healing and Journey Programs*

Cincinnati, OH— November 2016- Current

- I provide Arts & Healing services via Creative Movement in partnership with Pones Inc. at Hospice Care of Cincinnati and the VA Hospital
- I also provide Visual Arts services for the "Trac Program" at the VA Hospital of Cincinnati.
- In the "Journey" program, I work with Stacy Sims of Mindful Music Moments to provide classroom "mindfulness" and "trauma healing" support at South Avondale Elementary school.

Teaching Artist- *Pones Inc*

Covington, KY— November 2016- Current

- Movement Artist and Arts & Healing Specialist at CPS and Covington Local schools, Lindner Center for Hope & Healing, Anna Louise Inn, City Gospel Center's Women's Shelter, and more.
- Co-creator of film project "Proximity" which won multiple local awards.

Teaching Artist- Skool Aid

Covington, KY— November 2016- June 2018

- Teaching Artist in 22 local schools, offering classes like: Creative Expression, Arts & Nature, Creative Movement, and Movement & Music.

Mosaic Mural Artist (2011-current)

- Created and Installed “*ReImage*” mosaic mural with students at **Orange Korner Arts**, Philadelphia, PA, May 2011.
- Co-created mosaic mural street sign markers for the city of Canton, Ohio, Summer 2012.
- Apprenticed with **Isaiah Zagar** at *The Magic Gardens* in Philadelphia, PA, Summer 2013.
- Created “*Every Piece Finds It’s Place*” mosaic mural with Cincinnati Adoption Co-op, May 2013.
- Designed and installed mosaic mural “*Hope*” with BuildaBridge Institute participants at BuildaBridge International Summer Institute, Philadelphia, PA, June 2013.
- Apprenticed with **Green Star Movement** in Chicago, IL.; installed 2 mosaic murals “Plant, Grow, Harvest” & “Circles,” Summer 2014
- Facilitated and Implemented a “*Belonging in Community*” mosaic with 14-18 yr olds refugees and immigrants in Columbia, MO- as a part of an Arts & Healing *Artist in Residency* via BuildaBridge International, Rotary Club of Columbia MO., and Vessels International, February 2017.
- Artist-in-Residence at South Avondale Elementary School for the “Cincinnati Renaissance Mosaic Project,” Winter 2019

Adjunct Faculty, Eastern University: Urban Studies MA Program

Philadelphia, PA — 2012-2016

I am an adjunct faculty for The Master of Arts Degree in Urban Studies: Arts in Transformation Concentration which exists to prepare students with creative interests, artistic gifts, and commitment to become active leaders and change agents engaged in holistic community transformation. I teach the “Arts in Transformation” and “Arts Relief & Social Services” courses.

Transformational Arts Specialist, Nzuzu

Cincinnati, OH — 2012-current

Nzuzu’s mission is to “bring your gifts to the surface by blending yesterday’s ancient wisdom and today’s integral truth.” (www.mynzuzu.org)

- Facilitated the 2013 Warrior Princess Workshop
- Facilitated the 2011 & 2012 Rites of Passage for Girls Summer Program

WORKSHOPS, ART SHOWS, & INSTALLATIONS (2015- current)

- Facilitator, ***From Story to Service***, 6 week course at The Hive Cincinnati
- Facilitator for Organizational Mission/Vision Exploration process- National Association of Railroad Business Women (NARBW)
- Workshop Presenter: “Broken”, an exploration of trauma and community healing at **Creative Mornings Cincinnati**
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: Trauma-Informed Community Arts with **ARTWORKS Cincinnati**

- Teaching Artist Staff
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: Addressing Community Trauma through Artmaking with **ARTWORKS Cincinnati** Youth Artists
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “Working in This World” workshop at **Imago Earth Center**
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “Ritual for Everyday Living” workshop at **Imago Earth Center**
- ReConnect, Featured Artist, **Imago Earth Center**, Cincinnati, OH.
- Wild Women Don’t Get the Blues, Featured Artist, **Dayton Street Art Center**, Cincinnati, OH.
- Dreaming Up A New Ecology, Solo Show, **Park +Vine** in Cincinnati, OH.
- Whimsy & Fiction, Featured Artist, Final Friday Art Show at **Park+Vine** in Cincinnati, OH.
- Artswave Macy’s Art Sampler, Featured Artist of “Explorations of the Divine” Show, **Grailville Program & Retreat Center** in Loveland, OH.
- SOS Art Show, Artist, **The Art Academy of Cincinnati**, Cincinnati, OH.
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “The Dream Machine.”; Sankofa House, Cincinnati, OH.
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “The Death Lodge”; Sankofa House, Cincinnati, OH.
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “Imagination, Storytelling, & The Places We Live.” Cincinnati, OH; Loveland, OH; Madisonville, OH.
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “My People, My Place: Storytelling Through Visual Arts & Dance.” **National Community Development Conference**, New Orleans, LA.
- Workshop Creator & Presenter: “Asset-Mapping for Social Change.” **The Community Engagement Academy**, Cincinnati, OH.

COMMUNITY HONORS

- **Critics Choice Award**- Fringe Festival & CityBeat for “*Proximity*” Film, 2020
- Board Member, **Imago Earth Center**, 2013- Current
- **The Center for Great Neighborhoods**: “*Covington Creates: Creative Placemaking Grants*”, Committee Member (2015-2017)
- Presenter, **CCDA National Conference 2013** (My People, My Place: Storytelling Through Visual Arts & Dance)
- Annual Presenter & Faculty, **Community Engagement Academy of Cincinnati** (Community Asset Mapping)
- Served as a Public Ally with **Public Allies Cincinnati**: 2012-2013
- **Patricia A. Young Award** for *Excellent Service to Young People*, 2007, 2008
- **Taban Blake Award** for *Outstanding Servant Leadership*, 2008

SKILLS and CERTIFICATIONS

- **Gestalt Institute Cleveland certified** in the “Leadership for a Culture of Radical Engagement”, May 2019
- Certified *Bones for Life* Teacher, 2018
- TRUE BODY Project Certified, 2017
- Reiki Level 1 & 2 Certified, 2018
- 10 years of Program Design, Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation
- 6 Years of Event Planning experience
- Mosaic Mural Design and Installation; Various Visual Arts Skills
- Grant Writing

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- Public Speaking
 - Community Organizing
 - Curriculum Development
 - Electronic Database Management
 - Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, Adobe
 - Social Media Proficiency