

Spring Symposium - Saturday, March 18th, 2023, Rowan University, 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

TIME	EVENT TITLE, DESCRIPTION, PRESENTER & ROOM LOCATION							
9:00-9:30	Check-in: Business Hall Foyer (Room 104)							
9:30-10:00	AENJ General Session , Presenter Introduction							
10:00-11:00	Keynote Presentation & Q&A: Cassie Stephens, Business Hall Lecture Room 104							
11:15-12:00	Breakout Sessions							
RM #	Westby 105	Westby 205		Westby 201	Westby 219	Westby 102	Westby 103	Westby 104
	<i>“Needle Point Felting” with Cassie Stephens</i>	<i>“Reflections and Dreams” Bookmaking with Tenley Escoffery</i>		<i>“Printed Repeated Patterns” with Harry Bower</i>	<i>“Digital Compositions” with Kelly Wenz</i>	<i>“Foraging Materials to Nourish Your Art Practice” with Donna Mason Sweigart</i>	<i>“Exploring Juxtapositions” with Richard Serra X Bread & Puppet</i>	<i>Blick-sponsored Lesson and Material Exploration: “Encaustic Monotype Printing” with Sandra Koberlein</i>
12:00-1:00	Lunch - on your own - maps and coupons provided or MIDDAY Session: The Sister Chapel Guided Gallery Tour 1							
1:15-2:00	MIDDAY Session Options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sister Chapel Guided Gallery Tour 2 • Self-guided tour of The Rowan University Art Gallery, 301 High Street, Glassboro • Cassie Stephens Book signing 							
2:15-3:00	Breakout Sessions							
Rm #	Westby 105	Westby 205	Westby 206	Westby 201	Westby 219	Westby 102	Westby 103	Westby 104
	<i>“Needle Point Felting” with Cassie Stephens</i>	<i>“Reflections and Dreams” Bookmaking with Tenley Escoffery</i>	<i>“The Future in Your Hands” with Megan Hawthorne</i>	<i>“Printed Repeated Patterns” with Harry Bower</i>	<i>“Digital Compositions” with Kelly Wenz</i>	<i>“Foraging Materials to Nourish Your Art Practice” with Donna Mason Sweigart</i>	<i>“Exploring Juxtapositions” with Richard Serra X Bread & Puppet</i>	<i>Blick-sponsored Lesson and Material Exploration: “Encaustic Monotype Printing” with Sandra Koberlein</i>
3:00- 3:30	<i>Closing Remarks and giveaway</i>							

Breakout Session Descriptions:

KEYNOTE Presentation (Business Hall Room 120 - building next to Westby hall):

Cassie Stephens has been an elementary art teacher in Nashville, TN, for the last 25 years. Hear her speak on her art teacherin' journey from her start as a clueless art teacher to her...continued life as a clueless art teacher who, along the way, has discovered the secrets to art teacherin' happiness. You'll laugh, you'll cry, and you'll be happy to learn from her many mistakes as you Follow Your Art!

Needle Point Felting with Cassie Stephens (Westby 105):

Cassie Stephens began exploring the art of needle felting several years ago. Since then, she's created an entire wardrobe of needle felted wears, from her "Mondrian coat" to her "The Scream dress" to her light-up "Starry Night" ensemble. Needle felting is similar to painting, but wool roving is your medium. In this workshop, Cassie will share ways for you to explore this medium both in and out of your art room. Feel free to bring an old sweater or garment that you'd like to felt on (the item does not need to be wool!). But if you don't have something, don't worry. Cassie has a fun project in store. At the end of this workshop, you'll not only learn the art of needle felting but have created your own wearable work of art!

Reflections and Dreams Bookmaking with Tenley Escoffery (Westby 205):

This workshop guides us deeper into identifying moments and areas within self and social relationship connections. Participants explore strategies and processes for problem-solving that can generate more thoughtful solutions to these questions of self/social. Personal timeline book-making and reflective thinking activities affirm participants' personal histories and articulate their dreams for the future.

The future in Your Hands with Megan Hawthorne (Westby 206):

Explore the versatility of papier-mâché in your classroom! Participants will learn how to create the beginning steps of a hand sculpture that can be used in various ways to teach visual communication and symbolism in the art room and the importance of goal setting and self-expression through 3-dimensional art techniques.

Printed Repeated Patterns with Harry Bower (Westby 201):

In Asian paintings, the personal "chop or seal" establishes the artist's identity and is used to authenticate the painting. This authentication "seal" or "chop" is the artist's signature, which, when also written, serves as a secondary identification. Participants will create a "chop" using gum erasers and stamp pads, which will be used to create a series of repeated patterns using grid paper. A variety of patterns can be created with one "chop," or participants may share with the group to combine several works of art. Colored pencils will be available if time permits. All materials, tools, and copies will be included.

Digital Compositions with Kelly Wenz (Westby 219):

A multidisciplinary digital media in the visual arts hands-on workshop that guides you through product photos and digital layouts catering using a free design application.

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Foraging Materials to Nourish Your Art Practice with Donna Mason Sweigart (Westby 102):

After all of the energy that visual art educators spend on others, as artists we need to reset. Take a short walk, breath and search for materials and inspiration. Use these materials, textures, and scents to inspire a 3D wearable collage. Build and record these either permanent or ephemeral sketches.

Material and Lesson Exploration, Blick-sponsored: Encaustic Monotype Printing with Sandra Koberlein (Westby 104):

Have you ever wondered what encaustic is? This historic painting medium consisting of melted, pigmented beeswax is experiencing a major resurgence. Let's bring it back! This workshop invites you to experiment with this ancient, luminous material. You will be guided as you experiment with pulling intriguing encaustic monotype prints to turn into a vibrant one-of-a-kind suncatcher.

Keynote Bio

Cassie Stephens

After spending entirely too long at Indiana University getting her degree in both painting and art education, Cassie Stephens did her student teaching in the magical land of Ireland. While she was away, her parents, fully aware of her slacker ways, sent out 52 art teacherin' job applications to such far away places as Alaska. One such place that called her for an interview was Nashville, Tennessee. On a whim, she loaded up her jean-jumpers, resume, and chain-smoking grandma to make the trip to Nashville, where she landed her first teaching gig. Fast forward 15 years, Cassie settled down with her husband and their three cats. Sadly, she'd fallen into an art teacherin' slump rehashing stale art lessons, still wearing those sad jean jumpers and doing little creating of her own. It was then that she decided to create a blog that might help snap her out of her funk. She'll be sharing more about that during her keynote presentation.

Zip forward once more to the present. These days, you can find Cassie teaching in Franklin, Tennessee, just south of Nashville. She's written two books filled with sewing and clay crafts for kids and art teachers alike. Most recently, she has self-published a book called Art Teacherin' 101, where she shares all that she has learned about teaching art to children over the last 25 years.

EVENT DESCRIPTION

AENJ is grateful to partner with Rowan University to host our Spring Symposium on March 18th from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM.

This inspiring day of professional development is designed to guide you through multiple hands-on experiences to “*Follow Your Art,*” access your creativity and gain actionable methods for your teaching practice.

The day's agenda includes:

- AM Check-In and General Session Introduction
- Keynote presentation by Cassie Stephens, Art Educator extraordinaire
- Choose from 8 different breakout sessions in the AM
- Lunch - BYO or explore the numerous restaurant options within 5 minutes of the event site
- After lunch, choose between two options for a gallery walk experience at the lovely Rowan Galleries.
- Choose from 8 different breakout sessions in the PM

This timely content will rejuvenate your teaching practice. As educators, we must remember why we chose this field and not lose sight of the art that brought us here. “*Follow Your Art*” will recalibrate your teaching compass so you can return to your classroom with ample creativity to influence student achievement.