

NICK AZZARO

NickAzzaro.xyz

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EDUCATION

MFA 2022 - University of Michigan Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design, Ann Arbor, MI

BFA 2004 in Photography - University of Michigan School of Art & Design, Ann Arbor, MI

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Simple Math, Too*, Ypsilanti, MI and virtual care of CoultureVerse

2021 *An Unexpected Bridge: Peter Privledge Meets the Brave Flyer*, I-91 Underpass on Grand Avenue in New Haven, CT

2020 *Rhytidome Proclamations*, painted on trees in public spaces, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, MI

2009 *Man v. Kind*, Johnsonese Gallery, Chicago, IL

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Gilda Snowden Memorial Exhibition*, Scarab Club, Detroit, MI

2022 *Telling Tales*, SE Center for Photography, Greenville, SC

2022 *Close but Not Touching*, MFA Thesis Show, Ann Arbor, MI

2022 *Facing the Pandemic*, University of Michigan Museum of Natural History, Ann Arbor, MI

2021 *Respond, Resist, Rethink*, Stamps Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI

2021 *Choose Your Own Adventure*, MFA First Year Show, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

2020 *Passion and Fantasy through the Photographic Lens*, collaborative exhibit with Stan Malinowski and Marc Hauser, Madron Gallery, Chicago, IL

2019 *Michigan Department of Education - Western Michigan University Creative Lens Conference* - educator exhibitor, Traverse City, MI

2018 *Faces*, ypsiGLOW, Puffer Red's, Ypsilanti, MI

2016 *Ann Arbor Art Center Annual Exhibit*, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI

2016 *(Re)Formation*, Project Gallery, Toledo, OH

2016 *Sticks & Stones*, Washington Street, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Pop-X*, Liberty Plaza, Ann Arbor, MI

2013 *Time*, Detroit Center for Contemporary Photography, Pontiac, MI

2011 *Regard/Resist/React*, Governor State University, University Park, IL

2010 ArtPrize, Grand Rapids, MI

2010 Art Loop Open, Chicago, IL

2010 July, 2009 October, 2008 September, 2008 February Slideluck Potshow, Chicago and New York, Columbia College, Milwaukee Avenue Space, Hubbard Street Lofts, Chelsea Museum, Madron Gallery

2008 *From Fantasy to Fashion*, collaborative exhibit with Stan Malinowski, Madron Gallery, Chicago, IL

AWARDS + GRANTS + PANELS

2023 Washtenaw Artist Grant, CultureSource and Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation

2023 Gilda Snowden Memorial Exhibition, 1st Prize, Scarab Club, Detroit, MI

2021 Social Work Anti-Racist Design Challenge, 1st prize, University of Michigan School of Social Work, Ann Arbor, MI

2021 Anton Art Center Education and Arts Panel Discussion, Mt. Clemens, MI

2019 Speaker, State of art and photography in Washtenaw County, Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce, Ann Arbor, MI

2019 Michigan Department of Education - Western Michigan University Creative Lens Conference - Presenter, Traverse City, MI

2018-2020 Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation In Our Neighborhood grant

2018 NAACP Ypsilanti-Willow Run Oswald Garrison Villard Civil Rights & Social Justice Award

2015 *Front Street*, Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, Ypsilanti, MI

2014 Detroit Connections Artist-In-Residence, Bennett Elementary School, Detroit, MI; University of Michigan Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design

2014 Hamilton Crossing Housing Development Family Portrait Project, Institute for the Study of Children, Families and Communities, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

CURATORIAL + ASSISTANT CURATORIAL

2023 *Simple Math, Too*, physical and virtual exhibition in partnership with CultureVerse, WRY Lab and online, Ypsilanti, MI

2018-2020 Co-founder and producer of Y-Fi social art movement, multiple performances: Ypsilanti District Library, Eastern Michigan University, Ann Arbor Summer Festival

2017 *In the Neighborhood Dinner + Conversation*, Hyperion, Ypsilanti, MI

2016 *Laura Makar: Bursting Open, Bursting Apart*, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Icons of Fashion, works by Stan Malinowski*, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Virtuous*, works by Jermain Dickerson, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Natural Selection*, works by Megan Williamson, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Lacuna: Life Through Death*, works by Jessica Tenbusch, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Thin Places*, works by Molly Diana, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *Feast: A Visual Spread*, works by Jessica Krmarik, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

2015 *American Dreamboat*, works by Margaret Hitch, Chin-Azzaro, Ypsilanti, MI

TEACHING and ACADEMIC GALLERY

Freelance Art Program Coordinator

2023 - Public Schools within Washtenaw and Wayne Counties, MI

Create age appropriate, supplemental art programming for K-12 students in schools in Washtenaw and Wayne Counties with a focus on working with accessible materials and processes, such as out-of-use school furniture, and paper and wheatpaste; lead discussions on various artists and current events as prompts; initiate cross-county collaborations that result in large-scale, public facing work; coordinate with current school art teachers and develop short and long-term programming

Part-Time Photography Instructor

2023 and 2020 - Washtenaw Community College - Ann Arbor, MI

Taught advanced portfolio and intro to photography classes both in-person and virtually; offered technical advice on studio lighting, post-production, various cameras and lenses, location gear; led in depth photo reviews; offered critical feedback while referencing photo techniques and past photographers; maintained grades and kept students informed; coordinated curriculum with schedules

Assistant Preparator

2022 - Stamps Gallery, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, MI

Assisted with installation of major gallery shows, such as LaToya Ruby Frazier's *Flint is Family*, helped fabricate vehicles for artwork display; helped coordinate delivery and receiving of artwork; helped to transition gallery ahead of schedule

Graduate Student Instructor - Integrative Projects

2020 - Stamps School of Art & Design, University of Michigan - Ann Arbor, MI

Co-taught weekly classes in the year-long Integrative Projects course; helped students curate and install work as well as fabricate custom methods of display; led workshops on various artistic practices; led critiques; organized and coordinated access to online classes; maintained grades and class timeline; met with every student individually once a week

Photography Teacher, District Documentarian

2015 - Ypsilanti Community Schools - Ypsilanti, MI

Built a high school photo program from the ground up; helped students become proficient with DSLRs to create powerful, intentional imagery; delegated photo tasks to students to serve the district; prepared students for college as well as starting photo businesses after graduation; highlighted positive, day-to-day classroom activities across the district

Photo Club Coordinator

2013 - Eastern Michigan University Bright Futures 21st Century Community Learning Centers - Ypsilanti, MI

Developed and ran after school photo clubs at multiple schools, K-12; transported and maintained all equipment; shared and reviewed images with students

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographer/Assistant Curator

2012 - Chin-Azzaro - Ypsilanti, MI

Satisfied client objectives utilizing technical photography knowledge for marketing campaigns; scouted, conceived and produced images in fast-paced and high-traffic environments; provided post production; worked in-studio or on location; co-curated gallery shows; prepared studio for events, including the conversion to a camera obscura; served restaurants, businesses, and institutions in and around metro Detroit

Freelance Photographer

2010 - Silver Lining Digital - Chicago, IL

Clients - Gardner White; JCPenny; Enesco Studios; Heritage Travelware; OTTO Japan; The Lakeside Collection; Yankee Candle

Photographer

2007 - Core 3 Creative (formerly Image Studio) - Chicago, IL

Clients - National Geographic Catalog (Italy); Lou Malnati's; At Home America; Chiasso; Hamakor Judaica; Republic of Tea; Chefwear

1st Assistant

2005 - Jeff Sciortino Photography - Chicago, IL

Clients - Abbott Labs (Singapore, Brussels); Chicago Tribune; Chicago Magazine; People Magazine; Vibe Magazine; Wired Magazine; Bloomberg; Miller Beer; Motorola; 3M; CNA Insurance; Dove; University of Chicago

Freelance Photo Assistant

2004 - GSP Marketing - Chicago, IL

Clients - Sears Tools; Sears Wishbook; Follett; LensCrafters; FTD Flowers; PEM-America, Inc; Service Merchandise; LTD Commodities; Budweiser