Stephanie Ashenfelder

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# Education

1999 MFA Sculpture, California College of Art, San Francisco, CA

1996 BFA Sculpture Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA

# Academic Experience

Program Director Digital Media Studies**,** University of Rochester, NY 2021-present

* Manage a growing program of digital researchers and practitioners including faculty, staff, and students
* Negotiate faculty appointments
* Collaborate on multidisciplinary projects across departments and colleges
* Develop curricular opportunities for students including UX Certificate
* Manage program and facility budgets
* Foster relationships with other institutions, including public partnerships
* Advise 100+ student majors and minors
* Instruct Senior Capstone course in Digital Media Studies
* Organize events and visiting scholars for students aimed at increasing visibility and presence of digital media studies on campus

Academic Director of Studio Arts, University of Rochester, 2021-present

Promotion/title change that recognizes the continued and exceptional support of studio arts curriculum and students (see duties of program manager below)

Assistant Professor (instructional track), University of Rochester, 2021-present

Interim Director Digital Media Studies**,** University of Rochester, 2019- 2020

Senior Lecturer, University of Rochester, 2019-2020

Program Manager Studio Arts, University of Rochester, 2006-2018

* Supervise term contract faculty and adjunct instructors
* Supervise staff of ten employees including studio manager, gallery director and student workers
* Administer curriculum and program development. Includes generating course requirements for adjuncts, originating, and collaborating on program initiatives for university and grant funding through committee work
* Foster interdisciplinary collaborations among college departments and outside cultural institutions
* Develop annual budget for capital funding and operational expenses
* Support recruitment efforts
* Instruct student development workshops in specific approaches to production
* Participate in senior thesis defense
* Act as departmental student advisor
* Teach courses in the Digital Media Studies and Studio Art Program

Adjunct Faculty**,** Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY 2006

Courses include Upper level and graduate advanced sculpture course combining large scale sculpture with performance and video

Adjunct Faculty, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 2004-2006

Courses Include: Intro courses in mold making, clay modeling; and composition problems in three dimensions for art majors

Adjunct Faculty, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY 2004-2006

Courses Include: Introduction to Studio Art and Methods Seminar: From Luddites to Cyborgs: an upper-level interdisciplinary art course embracing a variety of technologies

Adjunct Faculty**,** California College of Arts,San Francisco, CA 2000-2002

Courses Include: Sculpture w/o Electricity: Extended educations course focusing on creating contemporary sculpture through non-technological means.

Cyborg, The Re-invention of Nature: co-taught with Mark Bartlett. Undergraduate course in art theory.

# teaching portfolio

Digital Media Studies Senior Capstone. In this yearlong capstone experience students plan, design, construct, and deliver a digital media object of significant scope. Working as a team, students deploy their collective knowledge, skills, and expertise to undertake a community engaged project and/or devise a project of their own design.

Climate Interventions. This humanities course based in the arts combines the study of performing, visual arts and new media with history and theory to convey a breadth of stories about the human experience of climate change. In this interdisciplinary, collaborative course, students will be introduced to the multi-faceted use of the arts in designing for and expressing a vision for a sustainable future. Working with community partners, our research and story collection in the Adirondack Park will be used to inspire projects in the course.

Design Fundamentals: This foundational course introduces students to visual communication and design theory through a user-centered design approach. Design principles, user research, and problem definition will guide and inspire the work we create in this course. Students will identify opportunities for design and prototype solutions in this hands-on visually based course.

Introduction to Art: This course provides a broad framework for contemporary art practice through studio production, discussion, presentation, and critique. While many courses, including Photography, 3-D, Painting, and Digital Art, often start with the medium and work toward the concept, the projects in this class will immediately integrate conceptual challenges with material and technique.

# Community Outreach & Partnerships

UR Health Lab: University of Rochester Medical Center. Partnership aimed at utilizing media platforms and technologies to showcase current projects, relationships, and opportunities. 2022-2023

Adirondack Clean Lake Initiative: Adirondack Council. Partnership focuses on the creation of a Lake Association Media Toolkit. This plug and play media toolkit is a designed to drive membership and engagement. 2022-2023

Douglass Middle School, Rochester City School District partnership to research, design and implement a media lab. 2022-2023

Adirondack Council. Partnership focuses on climate change in the Adirondack Park and how art and design can educate park users to understand the impact of climate change on the park. 2021-present.

SPIRIT Nys. Faculty mentor for capstone seniors working to promote SPIRIT Nys, an organization that supports homeless youth in Rochester, NY. 2021-2022

Cracker Box Palace. Faculty mentor for capstone seniors working with Cracker Box Palace farm sanctuary at historic Atlasa farms. 2020-2021

Experiencing Civic Life. PSA and Poster Design Workshop taught to Rochester high school students. Community Outreach grant funded program through the Teagle foundation and the Humanities Center at University of Rochester. 2021.

Stop & Think. A presentation on Cyberbullying in conjunction with DMS senior capstone course. Community Partner: The Harley School, Brighton NY. 2019.

Wynn Farms Educational Program. Instructor for at-risk high school students. Course: Equine Studies and Art. Alternative High School Program, Honeoye Falls-Lima, NY. Director: Heather Bell. 2018-2020.

# Institutional Service

Art Sciences & Engineering Working Group.  This group’s primary charge will be to identify the programs, structures, and operations that are best managed at varying University levels and to make recommendations for the future structure of the college. Over 90 nominations were received for 13 seats on this important group. 2024-present.

Arts@UR. Co-Chair.  Interdisciplinary committee that seeks to fund, facilitate, and promote interdisciplinary research and scholarly collaborations on artistic endeavors between faculty and students from various artistic disciplines at the University. 2013-2023.

UX Design Certificate Committee.Interdisciplinary Committee convened to design an undergraduate certificate that would serves as an introduction to the core concepts of user experience design for undergraduate students at University of Rochester. 2021-present.

MEDIA Umbrella Committee.Interdisciplinary Committee exploring the future Media at the University of Rochester. 2019-2023.

Virtual Graduation Committee.Interdisciplinary committee charged with preparing a virtual graduation for 2020 University of Rochester graduating class. 2020.

Faculty Advisor, MEDIA Advisory Board, a student run organization that advises the Digital Media Program, 2021-present.

Faculty Advisor, ROC Design Club, a student club that unites around their interest in design. 2019-2023.

Rettner Hall Committee. Committee met to write the by-laws of Rettner Hall, its use, access, and safety policies. 2019-2020.

DMS Advisory Committee, chair. 2019-present.

Sage Art Center Committee, chair. 2006-present.

Undergraduate Major Advisor, Studio Art. 2006-present.

Undergraduate Major Advisor, Digital Media Studies. 2019-present.

UX Design Undergraduate Certificate, faculty advisor. 2021-present.

Undergraduate Freshman/Sophomore Advisor, 2010-2017.

# Public Talks

Climate Interventions: Art and New Media. 2023 a2ru National Conference, Pennsylvania State University 2023.

ADK Climate Stories: Climate Change and the Arts . Adirondack Research Consortium, Lake Placid Conference Center. 2023

The Art of Imperfect Advocacy. Moderator. University of Rochester. 2023.

Experiential Learning in New Media: Capstone Case Studies. Transformative Teaching. Virtual Speaker. A virtual conference: Florida State University, University of Dundee, Zayed University. Architecture, Media, Politics, Society. November 2022.

Aesthetics of Hope: Inclusivity through Community Art. Moderator. Office of Alumni Relations. University of Rochester. 2022.

A Series of Epic Fails. Visiting Lecturer, University of Florida Gainesville. 2020-2021

Inclusivity matters: A conversation with digital learning designers. Warner School of Education, University of Rochester. 2019

Screw Up Night: Embracing failures to move forward to better ideas and projects. iZone, University of Rochester. 2019

Installation Art: The Social and Political Dimensions of Electronic Culture, Visiting Lecturer, Rochester Institute of Technology. 2004

The Role of Technology in the Fine Arts Curriculum, Conference on Technology on the Humanities, Ithaca College, Ithaca NY. 2004

Visiting Artist’s Talk, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY. 2003

Visiting Artist’s Talk, State University of New York, Brockport, NY. 2003

Gallery Talk, Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco, CA. 1999

Graduate Art Program Panelist*,* International Sculpture Conference, Chicago IL. 1998

# Grants/Awards/Residencies

[Verizon and NYC Media Lab](https://www.rochester.edu/newscenter/digital-equity-digital-media-studies-memorial-art-gallery-555502/). Stephanie Ashenfelder and University of Rochester alumni Gina Romanazzi, Bradley Martin, Nefle Nesli Oruc, Yifan Jiang and Gevher Romanazzi were awarded a grant from Verizon and NYC’s Media Lab to bring new technology to educators at the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester, NY. $100,000. Awarded 2022.

Career Center Course Grant. Supports courses that advance students intellectual curiosity, competency, and skills. $5000. Awarded Fall 2022.

Community Engaged Course Grant: This grant supports existing partnerships in the senior capstone course. $1000. Awarded Fall 2022.

Community Engaged Course Development Grant. Community Partner: Adirondack Council. This grant supports the development of a multidisciplinary course that intends to highlight and participate in the potential importance of new research focused directly on the role of the arts in engaging people with climate change. University of Rochester, $8000. Awarded with Rose Beauchamp. 2021.

Career Curriculum Development Grant. This grant supports the development of a curated learning environment where students can find digital media resources in an interactive learning environment. University of Rochester. $2500. Awarded 2021.

Student Supported Research Grant. This grant supported the analysis of the gap between student needs and resources available on campus. University of Rochester, $1250. Awarded 2021.

Instructional Technology Grant, University of Rochester. This grant supported the purchase of equipment for URLaunch Pad, a technology lending library. University of Rochester, $10,000. Awarded with Kristana Textor. 2020.

Gweenie Award, Awarded by Gwen Green Career Center for excellence in collaboration efforts with Digital Media Studies senior majors. 2021.

Frontispace Summer Residency, [Frontispace Gallery](https://www.sageart.center/frontispace-residency), University of Rochester, Rochester NY. In collaboration with Amos Scully. 2019.

Faculty Instructional Technology Grant, University of Rochester. For support of the creation of an on-line student gallery. $1250. Awarded with Allen C. Topolski. 2011.

Faculty Instructional Technology Grant, University of Rochester. For support of a four-part workshop in artists’ books. $2500. Awarded 2009.

VPA Faculty Grant, Syracuse University. For support of project at the Arts & Literature Laboratory in New Haven, CT. $1000 Awarded 2006.

FEAD Grant, Rochester Institute of Technology. For support of project in conjunction with the Norman Rockwell Museum. $2000. Awarded with Amos Scully. 2004.

# Exhibitions

2022 Climate Stories from the Adirondack Park. A traveling audio booth collecting stories of climate change in the Adirondack Park. adkclimatestories.org

2021 Sage Conversations. Hartnett Gallery, University of Rochester, NY

2019

Solo Exhibition, *A Sudden Malfunction*, Frontispace Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester NY.

Faculty Show, Hartnett Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY\*

2018 [Hatch. Eat.](https://hyperkulturemiagallery.com/Stephanie-Ashenfelder) Hyper Kultuermia Gallery. Online Exhibition.

2012

[*Uncommon Denominator*](https://www.fandm.edu/news/for-news-media/press-releases/philips-museum-exhibit-uncommon-denominator-opens-saturday-sept-15), Phillips Museum, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA\*

*Downstairs and To the Left*, Faculty Show, Hartnett Gallery, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY\*

2011

[*Responding*,](https://www.flickr.com/photos/65778369@N07/5988682800) Big on Bloor Festival, Toronto, Ontario\* Dyan Marie, curator

*Stone Canoe*, XL Projects Gallery, Syracuse, NY\*, Lynette Stephenson, curator

2010

Big on Bloor Festival, Kent School playground, Toronto, ON.\* Dyan Marie, curator

2009

Solo Exhibition, *Returned Books*, Olean Public Library, Olean, New York\*

Stations, String Gallery, Wells College Aurora, New York\*

Stations, Community School of Music and Arts, Ithaca, New York\*

2008

[*Edges ‘o8*, Artpark](https://buffalonews.com/news/edges-08-shows-off-artparks-roots/article_5f49fd30-38d9-5a64-895f-f3e248bc7abb.html), Lewiston, New York\*

*Collectives and Collaborations*, Gallery RFD Swainsboro, Georgia\*

2007

Eight-Hour Projects, Bowman Penelec Galleries, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA\*

Shelter, Sculpture Now, Stockbridge, MA\*

2006

Gender: Identity, Arts and Literature Laboratory, New Haven, Connecticut

Projekt 30, monthly on-line juried exhibition, www.projekt30.com

2005

[Beyond/In Western New York](https://www.buffalospree.com/app/buffalospreemagazine/archives/2005_04/0405artpreview.html), curatorial collaboration of twelve regional museums and galleries, Buffalo Arts Studio, Buffalo, NY, catalog, invitational

Solo Exhibition, *Play Off*, Rochester Contemporary Arts Center, Rochester, NY

Solo Exhibition, *Home Improvements*, Tower Fine Arts Gallery, State University of New York

Brockport, NY\*

Retrospection, Kipp Gallery, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA, catalogue

2004

Sculpture In and By the River, Sculpture Now, Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, MA

2003

*Homeland Security*, Abco Gallery, Oakland, CA

2001

*New works*, International Sculpture Conference, Carnegie Steel Building, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

2000

*New Talent*, BASE Gallery, San Francisco, California

1999

*The Measure of All Things*, The Great Hall, George Kotz Theater, San Francisco, CA

*Graduate Thesis Exhibition*, California College of the Arts, SOMAR, San Francisco, CA

[*Survivalist*,](http://www.harrellfletcher.com/2006/1999/soex_survivalist/notes.html) Southern Exposure, San Francisco, California

1998

Short Films from Bay Area Artists, Fine Arts Cinema, Berkeley, California

1998

*Climbing Trees and Other Apparatus*, with Tim Kelly, Door Three Gallery, Oakland, CA

\* indicates collaboration with Amos Scully

# Related Experience

TU Delft, Netherlands. Diversity & Inclusion Week. Provided insights on DEI policy and crafting language for syllabi. 2022.

Chronicle of Higher Education**,** Contributor**,** Arts & Academe blogIssues Faced by College Campus Arts**,** 2010. In collaboration with Allen Topolski. 2010.

ArtWalk 2, Curator, New Media Public Art Commission for the grounds of the Visual Studies Workshop, Rochester, NY. 2010.

TenCue Productions, Production Coordinator/Manager, Berkeley, CA. 2000-2004.

* Traveled the country providing operations and logistics for large- & small-scale corporate events
* Executed budget development and reconciliation for projects from 20k-500k
* Managed various groups and personnel that came together for events
* Negotiated contracts with international vendors and venues
* Hired on-site event staff
* Designed room layouts
* Client accounts included Charles Schwab and Co. and Fast Co. Inc.

Aids Emergency Fund, Project Coordinator, Herbst Theater, San Francisco, CA 2002

* Coordinated Talent
* Directed Video
* Provided general administrative support

# Bibliography

[Careers Unfiltered, The Benefits of a Competitive Cohort.](https://www.listennotes.com/podcasts/careers-unfiltered/the-benefits-of-a-wfc_qx1Nbn3/) Podcast. June 2, 2021.

Julia Ferrante, “Uncommon Denominator”. Franklin and Marshall College News [Press Release], Sept. 2015.

Ali McKee, “Sculpture Now: Art in the Eyes of Youth”. The Berkshire Eagle, July 26, 2007.

Richard Huntington, “Stroke of Cooperative Genius”, The Buffalo News, May 15, 2005

Mike Johnson & Lisa Hughes, “Sports Cast Light on Gender”, Rochester Insider, May 27, 2005

Cynnie Gnash & Eric Jackson-Forsburg, “[From Nature to Psychobabble](https://vtape.org/critical-writing-index-article?id=1496)”, ArtVoice, May 26, 2005

Elizabeth Licata, “Art Preview: Beyond/In Western NY”, Buffalo Spree Magazine, April 2005

Judith Gaines, “Down by the Riverside”. The Boston Globe, July 4, 2005

Grace Glueck, “Sculpture Now: In and By the River, 2004”. The New York Times. April 20. 2004.