

Jeannette Perkal

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EDUCATION

Master of Arts in Art Therapy, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Merit Scholarship Recipient, Expected Graduation 2013

Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Studies and Communications, Antioch College (2006)
Merit Scholarship Recipient

WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern, Insight Arts ~ Chicago, IL (2012)

- Lead bilingual art therapy groups for women.
- Facilitate art groups for at-risk youth and low-income senior citizens.
- Assist with community-based fundraising activities.

Clinical Intern, Community Counseling Centers of Chicago (C4) ~ Chicago, IL (2011)

- Facilitated art therapy groups and individual counseling sessions for adults, addressing issues related to trauma, mental illness, relationships, social isolation, gender, self-image, and other personal challenges

Teacher, Sacred Heart School ~ Chicago, IL (2008-2010)

After School Arts Program

- Created and implemented hands-on art curriculum for students in first through fifth grades.
- Used diverse media to educate youth about creative self-expression.

Learning Assistance Program

- Provided intensive curricular support for students with learning disabilities.
- Prepared lesson plans that addressed all core subject areas.
- Collaborated and communicated with students' teachers regarding class material.
- Facilitated differentiated instruction to meet students' individual learning needs.
- Specialized in teaching mechanics of writing and reading comprehension.

Kindergarten Classroom

- Supported students' literacy engagement individually and in groups.
- Facilitated daily classroom routines.
- Prepared all materials for lesson plans.
- Maintained classroom organization and cleanliness.

Case Manager, Sandhill Child Development Center ~ Los Lunas, NM (2006-2007)

- Managed all ancillary treatment needs for 32 residents.
- Acted as liaison among residents, parents, staff therapists, religious counselors and medical professionals; provided critical communication about clients' health needs.
- Planned arts-based activities and retreats for behaviorally-challenged youth in treatment.
- Developed a nutritional program and meal rotation to support residents' health.
- Assisted in recruiting, interviewing, and hiring new employees.

Program Coordinator, Adelante Program ~ New Carlisle, OH (2005-2006)

- Designed and taught "Yo soy de.../I am from..." an after-school photography and writing program for young women.
- Provided one-on-one tutoring in ESL, reading, and all basic school subjects.
- Supervised, recruited, and transported volunteer tutors to assist with academic programs.

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Project Supervisor, Amigos de las Americas ~ Santiago, Panama (2005)

- Established host family contacts for American and Costa Rican youth volunteers.
- Helped volunteers write grant proposals to fund community development projects.
- Mentored volunteers; facilitated weekly counseling sessions regarding cross-cultural experiences, social justice issues, personal goal setting, conflict resolution, health, and safety.

Project Coordinator, Health Action New Mexico ~ Albuquerque, NM (2005)

- Networked with other grassroots community groups on issues of health care justice.
- Petitioned signatures to protest federal budget cuts for health care services.
- Assisted executive director with administrative tasks.

Legal Intern, Las Americas Immigrant Advocacy Center ~ El Paso, TX (2004)

- Researched country conditions and prepared supporting documents for asylum cases.
- Rehearsed testimony with clients to help them prepare for trial.
- Completed asylum intakes and directed incoming referrals.

Social Services Coordinator, Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project ~ Florence, AZ (2004)

- Offered social service referrals and emotional support to international detainees.
- Assisted long-term detainees in filing Habeas Corpus petitions to protest illegal detention.
- Interviewed clients about past experiences of persecution, torture, and relocation.
- Acted as liaison between clients and counsel.
- Translated for Spanish-speaking clients and English-speaking pro-bono attorneys.
- Provided information and emotional support to the families of incarcerated clients.

Family Advocate, Posada Esperanza shelter ~ Austin, TX (2003)

- Supported homeless women in efforts to find permanent housing, secure government assistance for food and medical provisions, care for children, and travel to appointments.
- Mediated disputes among residents; promoted positive conflict resolution in the house.
- Facilitated staff discussions about pertinent issues of social justice and inequality.

EXHIBITIONS

“Art of Connection,” collective work with C4 clients, School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2012)

“Express Train,” Venus Collective fundraiser for Dyke March Chicago (2011)

“The Social Body,” School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2011)

“Cavernous,” Plaines Project fundraiser for Mujeres Latinas en Accion (2011)

“Material Explorations,” School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2010)

“Just Be: Soul Revival,” Venus Collective fundraiser for Rape Victim Advocates (2010)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Panelist, “Social Action in Art Therapy,” Illinois Art Therapy Association (2011)

Symposium Speaker, “Building Burning Bridges,” School of the Art Institute of Chicago (2011)

Panelist, “Re-framing Social Action in Art Therapy,” Illinois Art Therapy Association (2011)

AFFILIATIONS

Chicago Healing Justice Network

L is for Liberation Collective