

PHYLLIS LABANOWSKI

educator ● activist ● art worker

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EDUCATION

2006-2010	School of the Museum of Fine Arts Boston	Diploma Program	Boston, MA
1994	Lesley University	M.A.	Cambridge, MA
1982	University of Massachusetts Amherst	B.A.	Amherst, MA
1976-1978	College of New Rochelle		New Rochelle, NY

SKILLS

COMMUNITY BUILDING and LEADERSHIP

- Inspired by work of social justice
- Able to lead, follow, and collaborate
- Able to work with groups to vision, brainstorm, and execute collective ideas
- Understand leadership development for both emerging and seasoned leaders
- Skilled at conflict resolution and coalition-building
- Co-create programs and public events for small and large groups (5 to 500)
- Able to manage time and budgets
- Knowledge of fund-raising and grant-writing
- Conversational Spanish-speaker

TEACHING and COMMUNICATION

- Skilled facilitator of groups across race and ethnicity, class, gender identity and sexual diversity, language, and age
- Understand and attentive to the needs of diverse learners
- Design workshops, classes, and courses
- Experience teaching children, middle, high and college-aged students and adults
- Experience in public and independent school communities with knowledge of K-12 curriculum
- Strong research, writing and editing skills
- Experience writing curriculum, proposals, and evaluations

CREATIVE and TECHNICAL

- Creative and conceptual thinker
- Graphic messaging, design skills, and desktop publishing using Adobe Creative Suite
- Experience creating art books, cool pamphlets, and maps
- Experience creating print and electronic materials: flyers and posters, brochures and pamphlets, reports and curricula
- Ability to execute ideas from vision to design; including 2d to 3d, prototype and model-making
- Basic carpentry skills

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EXPERIENCE

- 2010–present GRAPHIC MESSENGER Conway, MA
Provide affordable graphic messaging and non-traditional graphic design services for individuals, non-profits, and others doing good work in the world on a tight budget.
- 2010–present PROJECT CO-COORDINATOR
- Art for a Change The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
Co-created and co-facilitate monthly gatherings for activists, artists, and other community members to incubate and hatch social justice projects.
- ARTEens The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
Co-created and co-facilitate weekly afterschool art program for rural teenagers.
- Fostering Art and Culture Greenfield, MA
Co-created Franklin County's second creative economy summit; recruited presenters; facilitated panel discussions and networking events; graphic design.
- Valley Art Share Northampton, MA
Activated an on-line community of over 600 artists in three counties; organized and promoted conversations on art, labor, and the economy; graphic design for project brochure, e-flyers, and culminating map/publication, Local Arts Resources in Our River Valley.
- 1998–2013 ADJUNCT FACULTY
S.I.T. Graduate Institute, Brattleboro, VT; Fitchburg State College, Fitchburg, MA; Lesley University, Cambridge, MA; Springfield College, Springfield, MA; University of Massachusetts Boston, Boston, MA; Westfield State College, Westfield, MA
Designed and taught graduate courses for veteran educators and graduate students, and undergraduate courses for teachers-in-training.
- 2000–2012 PROJECT MANAGER and CURRICULUM WRITER
- Created Equal: A Curriculum for Teenagers on Class and Classism Class Action, Jamaica Plan, MA
Facilitating Circles of Change Curriculum Guide Spirit in Action, Belchertown, MA
In Our Family: Portraits of All Kinds of Families Family Diversity Project, Amherst, MA
Managed national committees to write creative curricula for non-profits with a powerful perspective; facilitated in-person and conference call meetings; wrote and edited submissions; graphic design.
- 2004–2010 LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CO-COORDINATOR Spirit in Action, Belchertown, MA
Co-created and co-coordinated national leadership program for community-based organizers and activists nation-wide; co-authored and designed booklet: Spirit in Action's Guide to Working in Diverse Groups; graphic artist.
- 1996–1998 CULTURAL IDENTITY GROUP FACILITATOR J.F.K. Middle School, Northampton, MA
Co-facilitated after school program to improve interethnic relations among middle-schoolers; co-facilitated parent programs and special events; co-authored curriculum.
- 1995–1998 STAFF DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST Western Area Vocational Gender Equity Center, Springfield, MA
Created and conducted faculty and student programs for public middle, secondary and voc.-tech. schools and community colleges; coordinated training teams across western MA; provided technical assistance to schools seeking institutional change; wrote curricula.
- 1996–2006 MULTICUTURAL and ANTI-RACIST EDUCATION CONSULTANT
Conway, MA; Communitas Inc., Northampton, MA; Diversity Consultants Network, Amherst, MA
Designed and taught professional development courses for faculty and administrators and classes for students and parents in public and independent schools (Pre-K-12); worked with diversity committees; supported institutional change.

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EXPERIENCE continued

1994-1995	RESOURCE TEACHER	Massachusetts Migrant Education Program, Northampton, MA
		<i>Developed, coordinated and conducted bilingual training-of-trainers for Puerto Rican parents: Parent Volunteers for Family Literacy and Community Health Educators Program; supervised teachers (Pre-K-12) in literacy program for E.L.L. and Spanish-speaking students.</i>
	CLASSROOM TEACHER	
1992-1993	Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA	
1991-1992	Malcolm L. Bell School, Marblehead, MA	
1984-1990	Anne T. Dunphy School, Williamsburg, MA	
1982-1983	Colegio Bennett, Cali, COLOMBIA	

ART EXHIBITIONS, PERFORMANCES, EVENTS (last seven years)

2016	H.A.T.C.H. (workshops/artistic fund-raising event for public art)	G.S.F.A.B.A., Shelburne Falls, MA
	Hilltown Draw-Around (art event/fundraiser)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	FLIGHT (installation and community grief ritual)	First Churches, Northampton, MA
	Waking Up With the Land (ceremony)	Seeds of Solidarity Farm, Orange, MA
	Snow Labyrinths	western MA
2015	Young Unarmed Black People Killed by Police (installation)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	Add My Tears to Yours (multi-media performance)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	2015 Biennial Exhibition (video selected for juried show)	Hosmer Gallery, Northampton, MA
	Money Stories (workshops co-facilitated in local banks)	Northampton, MA
	Ceremony at Bear's Den (co-created with youth)	Seeds of Solidarity Education Center, Orange, MA
	Water Dance (part of The River's Song a collaboration with UMass, Amherst)	Turners Falls, MA
	Trash to Treasure Exhibition (part of The River's Song)	Turners Falls, MA
	Hilltown Draw-Around (art event/fundraiser)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	What The World Needs Now (performance)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	Regional Teen Art Exhibition (co-curated with teens)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
2014	The Sound of Wealth (performance)	Williams College, Williamstown, MA
	75%+ ReUse Art Show	Northampton, MA
	Legal Tender: Women & the Secret Life of Money (artistic director)	Northampton, MA
	Regional Teen Art Exhibition (co-curated with teens)	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	The Sound of Wealth (performance)	Northfield Mount Hermon School, Gill, MA
	Water Dance to the CT River (performance)	Northfield, MA
2013	After Life (exhibition and events)	Freedom Trails Gallery, Amherst, MA
	Make Gardens not Garbage (co-created with youth)	Seeds of Solidarity Education Center, Orange, MA
	Rx 4 HEALTH	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA
	Community Exhibition	
	The Hoarder's Daughter (video premier and community conversation)	
	Apothecary of Stories (public art installation in progress)	
	What do you love about the Deerfield River? (public data)	Deerfield RiverFest, Shelburne Falls, MA
	Art Student Exhibit (video premier of The Sound of Wealth)	Greenfield Community College, MA
	Textual Image/Visual Text	School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

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ART EXHIBITIONS, PERFORMANCES, EVENTS (last seven years continued)

2012	Drink water. Ponder source. this side of the flood WATERS (performance/contemporary ceremony) source (a community exhibition for 7-77 year olds) The River Within Us (public art project to commemorate August 2011 flood) Labyrinth	The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA Seeds of Solidarity Farm, Orange, MA
2011	A SOLful Celebration (co-created with youth leaders) Q: What's LEFT? A: Abundance (co-curator/events organizer) The Sound of Wealth (performance) Textual Image/Visual Text (invited artist) Creating Multiple Realities (group show) There Are 1,000 Ways to Kneel and Kiss the Earth (land rituals) Snow and Grass Labyrinths	Seeds of Solidarity Education Center, Orange, MA The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA Koc University, Istanbul, TURKEY Nacul Center Gallery, Amherst, MA Seeds of Solidarity Farm, Orange, MA various locations around western MA
2010	Confluences (closing ceremony for Franklin county biennial) Dirty Laundry 2nd Annual Conway Village Arts Walk (organizer) Again and Again (group show) Local Arts Resources in Our River Valley Text and Image Art (group show) Snow and Grass Labyrinths	Turners Falls, MA Class Action, Jamaica Plain, MA Conway, MA The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls, MA C3 (Creative Community Collective) Northampton, MA School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA various locations around western MA

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (a partial list)

2015-present	Leadership Council (Mass Creative Franklin County representative)	Boston, MA
2015-present	Ceremony & Ritual (community conversations)	western MA
2012	8th Fire Gathering (gathering of indigenous wisdom)	western MA
2010	Creating a Sustainable Arts Economy	western MA
2010	Town Hall Meeting	School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
2008-2010	Curriculum Committee	School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
2005	Dismantling Racism Organizing Summit	western, MA
2004	Study Circles on Race	Amherst Regional High School, Amherst, MA
2002-present	Seeds of Solidarity Education Center	Orange, MA
2001-2002	Keepers of the Heart	western MA
2001-2002	Solidaridad Colombia	western MA
1998-2004	Anti-Racist White Youth for Racial Justice and Equality	western MA
1998-2006	MLK Day Organizing Committee	Northampton, MA
1996-1997	Committee to Stop the Burning of Black Churches	Northampton, MA
1995-2000	Committee for Un-doing Racism	western MA
1994-1995	Committee for Civil Rights Northampton Public Schools	Northampton, MA
1993-1997	Committee for Northampton	Northampton, MA
1992-1993	Diversity At Shady Hill	Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA
1991-1992	Selectmen's Task Force Against Discrimination	Marblehead, MA
1988-1995	International Children's Rainforest Project	Monteverde, COSTA RICA