

# Lena Garcia - Artist/Teacher

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[www.LenaGarcia.com](http://www.LenaGarcia.com)

## Education

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**University of Massachusetts Amherst - Amherst, MA** May 2025

Masters in Art Education - concentration middle school and high school

**Ithaca College - Ithaca, NY** May 2002

Bachelor of Fine Art in Theatrical Production Arts - concentration Set Design, Props and Puppetry

Minor in Art History

**Massachusetts Initial License: MEPID: 57238171** June 2025

Visual Arts Teacher for grades 6-12

### Certifications:

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Renewed Oct 2024

## Teaching Experience

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**Hampshire Regional High School - Westhampton, MA** Oct 2024-May 2025

Student Teacher in art classroom serving 7-12 grade students, and life skills students

- Partnered closely with supervising teachers to design impactful student centered lessons which drew upon their prior learning, their culture and was cross-curricular
- Redirected and engaged students with challenging behavior, transforming disruptions into productive learning moments ensuring a supportive learning environment
- Evaluated student progress and implemented targeted supports to promote growth and maximize learning outcomes
- Designed and delivered engaging customized lessons in color theory and watercolor which fostered curiosity and a deeper understanding of the elements of art

**Chesterfield Community Center - Chesterfield, MA** Feb 2022-Present

Art Instructor for adults in Oil Painting, Watercolor, Drawing and Acrylic Painting

- Created a nurturing and supportive environment which empowered all participants to grow in their art skills and confidence in art making
- Designed engaging projects for adults which enhanced their skills in oil painting, watercolor or drawing

**Art with Lena - Home Studio - Chesterfield, MA** Sept 2017-Present

Private Lessons for elementary, high school and adult students

- Actively listened to each student's goals and tailored support strategies to help them achieve their unique learning aspirations
- Created projects that grew social emotional skills as well as technical skills

**Goshen Town Hall - Goshen, MA** March 2022-Present

Art Instructor for adults in Acrylic Painting, Drawing, Cut Paper Lantern, and Block Printing

- Provided a variety of art tools including x-acto knives, scissors and punches to accomodate all skill levels, ensuring accessibility and creative expression for every participant
- Demonstrated techniques which grew the participants understanding of form, shape, line and value in drawing and painting

**Art Always - Teaching Studio - Florence, MA**

Jan 2022-Present

Art Instructor for elementary aged students in Art from Nature and Teen and Adult students in Watercolor

- Developed lesson plans centered around nature-inspired themes incorporating locally sourced natural materials to enhance hands-on learning and creativity
- Adapted art projects to suit a wide range of age-appropriate abilities, ensuring each participant could engage meaningfully and succeed at their own skill level

**Hillside Housing, Senior Housing - Cummington, MA**

Jan 2022-June 2024

Art Instructor for the residents at Hillside Housing in an Arts and Crafts Class

- Offered a variety of mediums - watercolor, acrylic, fiber and leather - allowing participants to explore diverse techniques and discover new creative interests
- Inspired participants to explore new activities, promoting cognitive health and lifelong learning

**Edmonds Heights K-12, a homeschool resource center - Edmonds School District, WA**

Sept 2017-May 2021

Art Instructor for homeschool students in middle school and high school

- Classes taught: Introduction to Drawing, Advanced Drawing, Acrylic Painting, Maker Challenge, Puppetry Fabrication and Oil Painting

**Homeschool Connections, a homeschool cooperative - Woodinville, WA**

Sept 2017-May 2021

Art Instructor for homeschool students in elementary, middle school and high school

- Classes taught: Acrylic Painting, Watercolor, and Puppetry with Storytelling

**Frances Anderson Center - City of Edmonds Recreation Program, WA**

Sept 2017-Jan 2020

Art Instructor for teens and adults

- Classes taught: Beginning through Advanced Oil Painting, Introductory Drawing, Intermediate Drawing and Fine Art Day Camp for Teens

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**Art Exhibits****Expression Beyond Instruction at the Herter Gallery UMass Amherst - Amherst, MA**

December 2024

Presented a series of paintings along side other Art Education majors

**Hilltown Open Studio Tour - Chesterfield, MA**

Sept 2023 &amp; Sept 2024

Welcomed over 100 people to my studio to view original oil paintings and a demonstration

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**Volunteer Work**

Hilltown Open Studio Tour - Chesterfield, MA - Artist and Volunteer

Sept 2023-Present

New Hingham Regional Elementary School - Chesterfield, MA - Board Member

Sept 2021 - Present

Chesterfield Cultural Council - Chesterfield, MA - Board Member

Aug 2022-Present

Shorenorth Co-Op Preschool - Shoreline, WA - Board Member and Chair

Sept 2014-May 2016

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**Affiliations**

Hilltown Art Alliance - Chesterfield MA - member

Sept 2023-Present

National Art Education Association (NAEA) - member

Sept 2022-Present

Massachusetts Art Education Association - member

Sept 2022-Present