

# RHEA VEDRO

FLUENT IN SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

## EDUCATION

**State University of New York at New Paltz (SUNY)** - MFA Metals, New Paltz, NY, 2006

**New York University (NYU)** - Gallatin School of Individualized Study, BA  
Community-Based Arts & Youth Program Development, Dean's Honor Society,  
Presidents Service Award, Presidents Award, New York, NY, 2000

**Culture and Development Seminar** - School for International Training,  
Independent Study "Community Murals" Oaxaca, Mexico, 1998 - 1999

## BOSTON, MA

**Director of Community Engagement – Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum,**  
Boston, MA 2/16 – present

Develop strategic plan for Community Engagement initiatives at the Gardner Museum to increase and fortify sustainable, mutually beneficial relationships with culture makers, community groups and arts leaders in Boston. Programs and educational opportunities connect diverse audiences with the Museum's rich collections, special exhibitions, concerts, and other resources and ensure welcoming and meaningful experiences for visitors of all ages. Manage all Family and Community programs. Supervise Studio Projects Coordinator and interns. Develop community aspects of the popular RISE Music Series featuring world-class performances in Calderwood Hall, collaborate with Contemporary Curator to design co-curated community installations. Developed Neighborhood Salon, a quarterly gathering of local culture-makers informing Community Engagement programming at the Museum.

**Visiting Artist, Jewelry and Metalsmithing Department – Massachusetts College of Art and Design,** Boston, MA 11/16

**Teaching Artist, *Sanctuary Series: Mindful Making* - Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum,** Boston, MA, 11/16

The art of making illuminated manuscripts was often an act of devotion through repeated and dedicated actions. Can an object retain the intentions and energies of the maker? Spend time in the galleries and then try your hand at metalwork in the Studio.

**Metalsmithing Demonstration, *Third Thursday: Made by Hand* - Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum,** Boston, MA, 9/16

Celebrate the dazzling craftsmanship of artworks made in clay, metal, fiber, wood, and glass. Metalsmithing demonstration and pop up show by Rhea Vedro in the Greenhouse Classroom.

**Consulting Director of the Arts – West End House Boys & Girls Club**  
Boston, MA 10/15 – 2/16

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## HIGHLIGHTED EMPLOYMENT - MADISON, WI

### **Artist in Residence, Lussier Community Center - Madison, WI 4/15 - 6/15**

Developed Facilitator Training for AmeriCorps teachers in social-justice inspired curricula through the study of metalsmithing. Incorporating material culture studies, current events, and technical instruction. Students designed, fabricated and etched metal amulets.

### **Family Liaison for Bilingual Programs/Bilingual Resource Specialist - Office of Multilingual and Global Education, Madison Metropolitan School**

**District, 9/11 - 8/15**

Served as point person for the school district to strategically engage families in bilingual K-12 programs. Launch, sustain, and assess initiatives with a range of stakeholders from the community, superintendent, principals, teachers, students and families. Develop community advisory boards, manage and track school lottery systems, produce events, promotional videos and marketing materials, create tool-kits for best practices in Family Engagement. Champion the values of individual school cultures and strategically build relationships to promote consistency in implementation of district-wide policy and initiatives.

### **Community Education Programs Manager & Project Director *Projecto Cuidándose* - Planned Parenthood of WI, 11/07 - 1/11**

Coordinated operating budget, grant reports, curriculum development, community advisory board, program assessment and evaluation on Reproductive Health for Latinas countywide. Supervised 20 community health workers and collaborated with University of WI service-learning courses to bring on interns and volunteers. Developed a social media campaign utilizing Spanish-language radio, print, bus and Internet advertising. Utilizing experiential learning and visual thinking strategies, produced innovative curricula for “home health parties” geared towards participants with low text literacy levels. Among community leaders replicated and modified our curricula making it culturally and linguistically relevant. Led Cultural Sensitivity trainings to over 300 staff in person and via webinar.

### **Guest Lecturer - University of Wisconsin - Madison, Art Department, 1/08 - 5/08**

Taught undergraduate courses to art and non-art majors exploring fine metalsmithing. Created syllabus and taught Special Topics seminar/studio course entitled *Metal: Power on the Skin, A Global Review*. This interdisciplinary course challenges students to examine metalsmithing from a global-historical context looking at both material culture and the human drive to create amulet and armor.

## HIGHLIGHTED PROJECTS - NEW YORK

### **Adjunct Professor - State University of New York (SUNY), New Paltz, 1/07 - 6/07**

Undergraduate Art Majors focus on visual thinking and drawing as a means to engage the community. Culminating project includes a mock public art proposal.

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## **Media Resource Center Coordinator - SUNY, New Paltz, NY, 8/04 - 12/06**

Coordinate work-study staff. Oversee payroll and training, budget, purchasing, and administrative oversight of digital art equipment for SUNY professors and students.

## **Community Educator - Queens Museum of Art, Queens, NY, 6/04 - 3/05**

Taught via a Ford Foundation grant for youth development. Designed and facilitated programming for new immigrant youth. Participants developed their original writing and performance to address diversity, identity, and place.

## **Program Director Red Hook - City Parks Foundation, Brooklyn, NY, 1/04 - 8/04**

Founding Director of Hook Productions, an after-school arts program for teens in the Red Hook Recreation Center public housing. Organized a collective of Brooklyn non-profits to offer tutoring, video, audio, and mural production. Conceptualize, plan and implement project-based community collaborations. Supervise staff, grant reporting and program design. Coordinate payroll and job placement for Summer Youth Employment Program.

## **Facilitator - New Visions for Public Schools, Fund for the City of New York, 8/03 - 8/04**

Facilitated professional development through the Leadership Academy for Parent Coordinators and School Principals. Led bilingual trainings including *Working with Diverse Populations*, *Special Education*, *English Language Learners*, and *Resource Mapping*.

## **Youth Media Consultant - AOL/Time Warner Foundation, NY, NY, 3/03 - 9/03**

21st Century Literacy Community Grants Initiative to develop RFP and RFP evaluation plan, research possible grantees, provide technical assistance to grantees, work with Alliance for a Media Literate America (AMLA) and other AOL/TW grantees to ensure initiatives were youth-driven, viable and innovative.

## **Coordinator Hip-Hop Social Action Initiative - Citizens Committee for New York City in collaboration with Brotherhood/Sister Sol, NY, NY, 2/03 - 9/03**

Served as Artistic Director for capacity-building initiative exploring the intersection of hip-hop, community service, and youth development. Youth won an action grant to develop and perform their original hip-hop musical, "Off the Subject" addressing racial divisions and pressures on youth in the Washington Heights neighborhood.

## **Urban Visionaries Youth Film Festival Coordinator, NY, NY, 11/02 - 3/03**

Work with top youth filmmakers from a consortium of media literacy agencies in the NYC area to coordinate this three-day festival of youth-produced films at the NY Museum of Television and Radio (now The Paley Center for Media). Led teens, coordinated adult Program Directors from consortium, marketing, entertainment, and outreach. Audience exceeded 2,000.

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## SUPPLEMENTARY EXPERIENCE

### CONSULTING PROJECTS – MADISON, WI

**Metals Instructor**, Pre-College Initiatives, UW - Madison, School of Education  
6/15 - 7/15

**Metalsmithing Instructor**, Wheelhouse Studios, UW - Madison, WI 3/15 - 7/15

### CONSULTING PROJECTS - NEW YORK

**Graduate Teaching Assistant** - Intro to Drawing and Design & Intro to Metals, State University of New York, New Paltz, NY, 8/05 - 5/06

**Homeless Youth Program Design** - Family of Ellenville Shelter, NY, 5/05 - 8/06

**Metals Instructor** - Mill Street Loft, Poughkeepsie, NY, 7/05

**Mural Painting Instructor** - Wingspan Arts, NY, NY, 1/04 - 5/04

**Program Coordinator** - University Settlement Camp, Beacon, NY, 6/03 - 8/03

**East Harlem Tutorial Program Arts Consultant** - NY, NY, 9/02 - 1/03

**Children's Aid Society Arts Consultant** - Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention, "Social Action Through the Arts" curricula, NY, NY, 8/02 - 1/03

**Program Development** - The CityKids Foundation, NY, NY, 5/02 - 9/02

**Sexuality Education and Career Counselor** - GIRLS INC., Fannie Lou Hamer High, Bronx, NY, 3/02 - 6/02

**Illustration Instructor** - Robert F. Wagner Institute for Art, Queens, NY, 9/00 - 6/01

**Consultant & Teaching Artist** - Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University, "Walls of Power" course collaboration between Grand Street Settlement & NYU students, 8/00 - 1/01

**Community Connections Muralist** - El Museo Del Barrio, NY, NY, 9/99 - 2/00

### SELECTED INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

**Managing Creative Consultant** - Hotel Villas Delfines, Isla Holbox, Mexico  
1/11 - 9/11

**Curriculum Design and Instruction** - Forca Sindical, Instituto Paulista de Ensino e Cultura, English course for tourist sector workers, Fernando de Noronha and Olinda, PE, Brazil, 1/01 - 2/02

**Arts Workshop for Public School Teachers** - Escola Municipal Monsenhor Vicente de Paula, Lajes, RN, Brazil, 9/01

**Education Delegation** - *La Abeja Obrera*, Havana Cuba, 1/00

**Sereinhas Arts for Street Children** - Founding Director, RN, Brazil 3/98 - 9/98

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## SELECTED SCULPTURE EXHIBITIONS

*Forget Them*, **Brooklyn Metal Works**, Brooklyn, NY, 10/16-11/16  
*Showcase: Staff Art Show*, **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum**, Boston, MA 6/16  
*100 Drawings : Adorned Spaces*, **Society of North American Goldsmiths Conference**, Boston, MA, 5/15  
*Site Specific Installations*, **Madison Public Library**, The Bubbler, Madison, WI 5/15 - 11/15  
*Justified Art!*, **Overture Center for the Arts** Gallery I, Madison, WI 3/15 - 5/15  
*Solo Exhibition*, Peregrination, **Gallery Marzen**, Madison, WI, 3/15 - 4/15  
*Stealth Sculpture*, **Wisconsin Institute for Discovery**, UW Madison, WI 10/14 -12/14  
*EarthSong*, **Sun Prairie Public Library**, Sun Prairie, WI 9/14 - 12/14  
*Ogum*, **James Watrous Gallery**, **Overture Center for the Arts**, Madison, WI 1/14 - 3/14  
*To be: (determined)*, **Clara Hutton Gallery**, Fort Collins, CO 9/09 - 12/09  
*New Works*, **Emery Art Gallery**, Sun Prairie, WI, 11/09  
*An Engagement*, **Overture Center for the Arts**, **Gallery III**, Madison, WI 6/09 - 9/09  
*New Steel\_v2*, **National Ornamental Metal Museum**, Memphis, TN 4/09 - 6/09  
*The New Steel*, **National Ornamental Metal Museum**, Memphis, TN, 6/07  
*College Art Association Best of NY MFA Exhibition*, **Times Square Gallery**, NY, 2/07

## AFFILIATIONS

**American Alliance of Museums** – Member 2/16 - Present  
**American Craft Council** - Member, 1/07 - Present  
**College Art Association** - Member, 8/06 - Present  
**Society of North American Goldsmiths** - Member, 8/04 - Present  
**“The Community Arts Learning Initiative” NYU’s Gallatin School for Individualized Study** - Advisory Board Member, NY, NY 6/01 - 12/15  
**Artist Youth Educators International** - Founder, NYC|Brazil, 1/99 - 1/12  
**W.E.R.I.S.E. Women’s Arts Collective** - Board Member, NY, NY 8/00 - 8/04  
**Groundswell Community Mural Project** - Founding Member, Brooklyn, NY 7/00 - 7/03

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## ARTS HONORS & PRESENTATIONS

**Fulbright Grantee (Alternate)** - Art and Design, Istanbul, Turkey, 5/08

**Penland School of Craft Scholarship** - Blacksmithing, Penland, NC, 7/06 & 8/07

**Peters Valley Craft Center Scholarship** - Blacksmithing, Layton, NJ, 8/05

**Haystack School of Crafts Scholarship** - Blacksmithing, Deer Isle, ME, 6/05

**Columbia University, Panelist** - Careers in Community-Based Arts - Arts, Youth, and Education Conference, NY, NY 4/03

**The Fund for the City of New York, Presenter** "Integrating the Arts"- NY, NY 11/02

**New York University, Panelist** "Arts in Education" - Alternative Traditions National Conference on Alternative Higher Education, NY, NY 10/02