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CERTIFIED ENGLISH TEACHER, PRESENTER, AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Teaching Experience

- North Providence High School, N. Providence School Department. North Providence, RI. Certified English teacher from August 2005 to present. School newspaper adviser 2006 to present. Student Nerd Herd founder and adviser, 2013-present. Contact Melissa Thomas, English Department Chair, at 401-233-1150
- Johnson and Wales University, Providence, RI. Adjunct Professor of English from Fall 2014 to present. Contact Eileen Medeiros, Adjunct Coordinator, at 401-598-1400
- Upward Bound, Rhode Island College. Providence RI. ELA Instructor from June 2011 to May 2014. Contact Mariam Boyajian, Program Director, at 401-456-8081.
- Scituate High School, Scituate School Department, Scituate, RI. Long Term Substitute English teacher from February 2005 to June 2005. Contact Ruth Trainor, Department Chair, at 401-647-4120
- Ed Solutions, in conjunction with the Central Falls School Department and Providence School Department, RI. After school and summer ELA instructor from October 2003 to August 2004. Contact Kim McCoy, Director, at 774-210-0148

Other Experience

- Pop Culture Classroom. Denver, Colorado. Director of Programming Outreach, Comics Education Outreach Program, from November 2016 to present. Contact Illya Kowalchuck at (303) 579-5084.
- Rhode Island Comic Con, RI Convention Center, Providence RI. Director of Children's Programming from 2012-2014. Director of Programming 2014-present. Contact Steve Perry at 508-982-0396.

Education

- Rhode Island College, 2014, M.A., English.
- Rhode Island College, 2005, Teaching Certification Program.
- Rhode Island College, 1992, B.A., English, magna cum laude.

Professional Affiliations

- The Comics Education Offensive. Founding Member. 2015-present.
- Reading With Pictures. Associate. 2014-present.
- College Level Writing Collaborative. Steering Committee Member, Johnson and Wales University. 2012-2015.
- New England Association of Teachers of English. Executive Board, Member at Large. 2012-2015.
- National Council of Teachers of English. Member. 2013-present.

Professional Development Workshops & Presentations

- “Teaching More than the Basics: Pairing Comics and Chapter Texts in the Classroom,” Panelist. Colorado Convention Center, Denver ComicCon, July 2017.
- “The Grammar of Comics: How Teaching Visual Literacy Can Open Up New Classroom Conversations,” Panelist. Colorado Convention Center, Denver ComicCon, July 2017.
- “Gender Identity: Understanding through Art,” Panelist. Colorado Convention Center, Denver ComicCon, July 2017.
- “The Grammar of Comics: How Teaching Visual Literacy can Open Up New Conversations,” Moderator. McCormick Place, Chicago, American Library Association Annual Conference, June 2017.
- “Comics and New Literacy: Exploring Classroom Innovation,” Presenter. Roger Williams University, Rhode Island Writing Project Spring Conference. April 2017.
- "You fight like a girl! and Other Awesome Ideas involving Women and Comics," Moderator, The Javits Center, NYCC, New York City. October 2016.
- “You’re Such a Geek: A Guide for Teachers, Students, and Parents to Help Cope with Bullying,” Panelist, the Javits Center, NYCC, New York City. October 2016.
- "You fight like a girl! and Other Awesome Ideas involving Women and Comics," Moderator, Colorado Convention Center, Denver Comic Con, Denver. June 2016.
- “Assembling Your Nerd Herd: Creating Safe Spaces for Students in your School,” Panelist. Colorado Convention Center, Denver Comic Con, Denver. June 2016.
- “Comics and New Literacies: Exploring Classroom Innovation,” Panelist, McCormick Place, C2E2, Chicago. March 2016.

- "You fight like a girl! and Other Awesome Ideas involving Women and Comics," Moderator, McCormick Place, C2E2, Chicago. March 2016.
- "Creating Comics as Part of a Literacy Curriculum," Panelist, McCormick Place, C2E2, Chicago. March 2016.
- "Comics and New Literacy: Exploring Classroom Innovation," Panelist. Javits Center, New York Comic Con, NYC. October 2015.
- "Assembling Your Nerd Herd: Creating Safe Spaces for Students in your School," Panelist. Javits Center, New York Comic Con, NYC. October 2015.
- "Comics Make Kids Smarter: Exploring Data Driven Success in the Comics Classroom," Panelist. McCormick Place. C2E2, Chicago. April 2015. (Pending)
- "Introduction to the Graphic Novel as a Pathway to CCSS-Based Close Reading Strategies," New England Association of Teachers of English Annual Conference. Fall 2014
- "Super Girls: Using Comics to Engage Female Students in the High School Classroom," Panelist. Javits Center, New York Comic Con, NYC. October 2015.
- "Graphic Novels and Close Reading Strategies," Presenter. Massachusetts Independent Comic Expo, Comics in the Classroom Symposium, Lesley University, Cambridge. October 2014.
- "Closing the Gap," Discussion Facilitator. College Level Writing Consortium Annual Symposium, Johnson and Wales University. Spring 2012, 2013, &2014.
- "Teaching New Literacies With Graphic Novels," Poster Presenter. NCTE Annual Conference. Boston, Autumn, 2013.
- "How to Incorporate Graphic Fiction into the ELA Classroom." Presenter. Professional Development Workshop. Bay Path Regional Vocational High School, Spring 2013.
- "Comics in the Classroom, a Rationale." Panelist. Rhode Island Comic Con. RI Convention Center. Fall 2012.
- New England Comic Arts in the Classroom (NECAC) Symposium, Lesley University, Co-director, Autumn, 2012.
- NCTE Fall Conference. Mansfield, MA. Presenter. "Creating Close Reading Strategies with Graphic Novels."
- "Why I Teach Graphic Novels," Panelist, WildCat Comic Con, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Spring, 2012.

- “Creating Close Reading Strategies with Graphic Novels.” Presenter. Rhode Island Writing Project Annual Conference, Rhode Island College, Spring 2012
- “Comics as an Educational Medium.” Presenter. Brown University Bookstore. Spring 2012.
- "Graphic Novels, the Middle East Region and Muslim Communities: Introduction to Content and Resources.” Educator Workshop Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University, Winter, 2011.
- New England Comic Arts in the Classroom (NECAC) All-Day Conference. Rhode Island College. Director, Winter, 2011.
- "Comics and Teaching: Beyond Maus and Persepolis," Panelist, Massachusetts Independent Comics Expo, Autumn, 2011.
- “The Graphic Memoir.” Presenter, The Graphica in Education Conference, Fordham University. Winter 2009.
- “A Teacher’s Introduction to Comics in the Classroom.” Presenter, ASTAL Conference, Rhode Island College. Spring 2008.