

Rachel Wallis

202 557 1449 | rachela.wallis@gmail.com | www.rachelawallis.com

Education

2015 - 2016 **Moore College of Art and Design**, Philadelphia, PA

- MA in Social Engagement

1999 - 2003 **Wesleyan University**, Middletown, CT

- BA in Latin American Studies with a concentration in Sociology.
- **School for International Training**, Brattleboro, VT | Spring 2002
Semester abroad in Nicaragua and Cuba: Revolution, Transformation, and Civil Society.

Selected Work and Projects

2015 - present **Lead Artist, *Gone But Not Forgotten***

- In collaboration with We Charge Genocide, creating a community memorial quilt for victims of police violence in Chicago.
- Coordinating 16 public quilting circles and discussions in neighborhoods across the city.
- Organizing an exhibition of the quilt, process photos, and a multi-channel video installation featuring the family and friends of several of the victims

2015 - present **Textile Instructor, Lillstreet Art Center**

- Teaching sewing, embroidery, quilting, and screen printing.

2014 - present **Freelance Illustrator**

- Monthly illustration contract for Rotarian Magazine (print circulation 500,000).
- Cover illustration for *This is a Dance Movie*, a collection of short stories by Tim Jones-Yelvington, due out in 2016 from Tiny Hardcore Press.

2014 - present **Fundraising and Communications Consulting**

- Strategic planning, grassroots fundraising, and communications consulting with the Committee for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine, Kindling Group, Chicago Community Cinema, and the Community Activism and Law Alliance.

2011 - 2014 **Communication and Events Manager, Crossroads Fund**

- Website design and maintenance, blogging, design and production of newsletters and donor education materials.
- Managed donor communication, including email, Facebook, and Twitter.
- Fundraising, including event planning, direct mail, and online fundraising.

2008 - 2011 **Media and Education Coordinator, Other Worlds**

- Website design and maintenance, blogging, design and production of materials including postcards, reports, and conference displays.
- Event planning, major donor solicitations, direct mail, and grant writing.

2009 - 2011 **National Coordinator, Chiapas Media Project**

- Served as the primary development staff member, responsible for fundraising, including grant writing and direct mail, reporting, and organizational bookkeeping.
- Secured \$40,000 of new grant funding for international media projects.
- Website and social networking maintenance, DVD distribution, and coordinating national speaking tours.

2010 **Fundraising Coordinator, AREA Chicago**

- As the first paid fundraising staff person for AREA Chicago, a journal of arts and activism, developed a fundraising calendar and bookkeeping system.
- Secured \$10,000 in new grant funding for website.
- Coordinated annual fundraising events, including art auctions.

- Exhibitions**
- 2016 *Senior Thesis Exhibit* – Moore College of Art and Design, Philadelphia, PA
 - 2016 *Gone But Not Forgotten (work in progress)* – Hyde Park Art Center, Chicago, IL
 - 2014 *Day of the Dead Offering to Santo* – Whitdel Arts, Detroit, MI
 - 2014 *No Selves to Defend* – Art in These Times, Chicago, IL
 - 2014 *Craft/Work* – Beauty and Brawn Gallery (artwork in collaboration with *El Stitch y Bitch* collective), Chicago, IL
 - 2013 *Fun-a-Day Chicago*- Threadless, Chicago, IL
 - 2012 *Hanal Pixán Food for the Souls: Dia de los Muertos* – National Museum of Mexican Art (artwork in collaboration with *El Stitch y Bitch* collective), Chicago, IL
 - 2012 *Morsels: A Small Works & Small Series Show* – Township, Chicago, IL
 - 2011 *Works on Cardboard* – Chicago Urban Arts Society, Chicago, IL
 - 2010 *AREA Chicago Art Show* – Yollocalli Art Reach, Chicago, IL
 - 2010 *Works on Cardboard* – Co-Prosperity Sphere, Chicago, IL
 - 2009 *AREA Chicago Art Show* – Orientation Center, Chicago, IL
- Curatorial Projects**
- 2014 *Craft/Work* – Beauty and Brawn Gallery, Chicago, IL
 - 2013 *Fun-a-Day Chicago*- Threadless, Chicago, IL
 - 2010 *AREA Chicago Art Show* – Yollocalli Art Reach, Chicago, IL
 - 2009 *AREA Chicago Art Show* – Orientation Center, Chicago, IL
- Selected Lectures, Workshops & Residencies**
- 2016 A Studio in the Woods – Flint and Steel Residency (to be completed in 2017), New Orleans, LA
 - 2016 School of the Art Institute of Chicago– Visiting artist for Art Education and Fibers Department classes.
 - 2016 Lake Forest University – Guest lecturer for Sculpture and Art History classes.
 - 2015 Southeastern College Art Conference – Presenter on *From a Spark to an Eruption: A Woman's Role During the Early to Mid-Twentieth Century Art*
 - 2015 Elevarte Community Studio – *Gone But Not Forgotten* quilting circle.
- Grants**
- 2015 Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events individual artist grant for *Gone But Not Forgotten*
- Leadership**
- 2013 - present **Co-Founder, Craft/Work**
 - Collaborated on the art quilt *His/Ours* and co-wrote the related publication.
 - Coordinated a successful \$3,500 Kickstarter campaign, organizing a bi-weekly artist talk and workshop series, and curating a gallery exhibit.
 - As a member of *El Stitch y Bitch*, created *Untitled (Homicide Quilt)*, a textile installation in the *Craft/Work* show which was the subject of extensive local and international news coverage.
 - 2009 – 2011 **AREA Chicago Advisory Board**
 - Strategic planning, editing, and fundraising.
 - 2007-2009 **Board of Directors, Centro San Bonifacio**
 - Fiscal management, strategic planning, staff oversight, and fundraising.
 - 2002-2010 **Board of Directors, Colectivos de Apoyo, Solidaridad y Acción (CASA)**
 - Grant writing, grassroots fundraising, fiscal planning, hiring, staff oversight, outreach, and strategic planning.
- Skills**
- Language:** Fluent in Spanish, with extensive experience translating both text and live presentations.
- Computer:** Proficient in Adobe Photoshop and InDesign, Raiser's Edge, WordPress, MailChimp, Constant Contact, and Drupal.