

REBECCA GONZALEZ CIFALDI

(she/her)

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rebeccacifaldi.com

EDUCATION

- 2009 MFA, Photography, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Dissertation: Gonzalez, Rebecca, and Columbia College. Photography Dept.
“Reconstructing the Feminine Form: Hannah Höch and Inez van Lamsweerde.” Thesis (M.F.A.)--Columbia College Chicago, 2008., 2008. Print.
Advisors: Bob Thall, Barbara Kasten, Judy Natal
- 1999 MA, Studio Art, Printmaking, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, Michigan
- 1993 BFA, Visual Arts, Drawing, Sculpture, with an Art History minor, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

ACADEMIC POSITION

- 2017–present Assistant Professor-Fixed Term, Designation B, Department of Art, Art History, and Design, College of Arts & Letters, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
Photography I (in person)
Text and Image
Graphic Design I: Graphic Form (online and in person)
Concepts of Graphic Design (online)
History of Graphic Design (online and in person)
- 2025 Fellow, Epistemic Justice, *Incorporating Students’ Home and Community Knowledge in Teaching and Learning* program, College of Arts & Letters, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 2024–2025 Fellow, Adams Academy, AY24–25, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 2022–2023 Fellow, College of Arts and Letters, Inclusive Pedagogy Fellows Program, AY22–23, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- 2008–2019 Adjunct Faculty, Digital Media Arts Department, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI
Alternative Processes (Photography) cancelled COVID-19
Portfolio Seminar (Photography)
Photography I (blended online and in person)
Portfolio Projects
Color Photo Design
Digital Photography II
Introduction to Graphic Design
History of Graphic Design (online and in person)
Concept Development for Animation
Principles and Problem Solving in Graphic Design
Illustrator Graphics
Photoshop Graphics
InDesign for Print Publishing
Intro to Mac Graphics
- 2018 Workshop Instructor, UMMA—University of Michigan Museum of Art, Ann Arbor, MI
Red Circle: Designing Japan in Contemporary Posters
- 2012–2017 Lecturer, School of Art & Design, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
History of Graphic Design
Graphic Design for Non-Majors

2005–2009	Instructor, Hollander’s School of Book and Paper Arts, Ann Arbor, MI <i>Simple Digital Printing in Bookmaking</i> <i>Eraser Stamps</i>
2002–2004	Adjunct Faculty, Art Department, Harold Washington College, City Colleges of Chicago, Chicago, IL <i>Digital Multimedia Design</i>
2001–2004	Adjunct Faculty, Photography Department, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL <i>Photography for Interactive Multimedia Majors</i> <i>Foundations of Photography I</i> <i>Darkroom Workshop I</i>
2001–2002	Graduate Assistant, Photography Department, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL <i>19th & 20th Century History of Photography</i>
1998–1999	Graduate Assistant, Jewelry Studio, Art Department, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1995–1999	Private Art Lessons, Ann Arbor, MI

MUSEUM POSITION

2000	Graduate Intern, Museum of Contemporary Photography, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL
1998–1999	Gallery Director, Intermedia Gallery (Student-run Art Gallery) Art Department, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1994	Teaching Assistant, Gallery 37, Mexican Fine Arts Museum, Chicago, IL

TEACHING

Graduate Student Committees

2022–2023	First Year Exploration Committee, MFA Candidate Megan Weaver, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
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Mentor/Advisor

2023	Faculty Advisor, UURAF (University Undergraduate Research and Arts Forum), “The Art of Typography in Graphic Design: Analyzing the Works of Paula Scher and Omar Uddin,” by Shahed Mady, and “Exploring the Icons of Iconic Women: An Analysis of Two Influential Graphic Designers” by Grace Cyporyn, GD 200, History of Graphic Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2023	Entrepreneurship & Innovation (E&I) Experiences Advisor for Evan Pearlman, website design, GD 200, History of Graphic Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2021	Entrepreneurship & Innovation (E&I) Experiences Advisor for Lauren Bartos, competitive shopping analysis, GD 200, History of Graphic Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2021	Faculty Advisor, UURAF, “The Bias Within Infographics: Pandemic News Coverage and National Misinformation,” by Archer Stuenkel, History of Graphic Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2020	Educator, CR, Community Resource, Website Design, Pioneer High School, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
2020–present	Faculty Advisor, AIGA Student Group, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2017–present	Faculty Mentor, Honors Option History of Graphic Design, Concepts of Graphic Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2019	Faculty Advisor, Creative Arts & Research Forum, College of Arts & Letters, “Dr. Seuss & The Power of Cartooning in 20th Century Politics,” by Isabella Hoepfner, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

COMMITTEES AND ACTIVITIES

University Organization

2021–2025 Secretary, Contract Enforcement Committee, Member-at-Large, 2022 Bargaining Team, Union of Nontenure-Track Faculty / AFT LOCAL 1855 / AFL-CIO, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Ad-Hoc Committees

2024–present Member, Faculty Affairs Committee, Art, Art History, and Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2023–present Member, Graphic Design Pool Search Committee, Art, Art History, and Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2019–present Member, BFA Review Committee, Graphic Design, Art, Art History, and Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2024 Member, Laurén Gerig’s Designation B Committee, Art, Art History, and Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2024 Member, Working Group Fixed-Term Faculty Promotion, University Committee on Faculty Affairs - Academic Governance, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2022–2023 Affirmative Action Rep and Member, Assistant/Associate Professor of Graphic Design with focus on Critical Race Studies (tenure-system/tenured) Search Committee, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2022 Affirmative Action Rep and Member, Graphic Design Fixed-Term Hiring Committee, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Academic Development Workshops, Programs, and Symposia

2023 Panel Member, Exploring Inclusive Practices Across the Curriculum: Results from the Inclusive Pedagogy Fellows Program in the College of Arts & Letters at MSU, Spring Conference on Teaching and Learning, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2023 Digital Futures 1-Credit Course Initiative, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2023 Pedagogy, Identity, and Community Workshop Series, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2022 Implicit Bias Certificate, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2022 Dialoguing about High Stakes Topics in the Classroom led by Dr. Adrianna E. Crossing, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2022 Anti-Racist Teaching Workshop led by Felicia Rose Chavez Author of The Anti-Racist Writing Workshop: Decolonizing the Creative Classroom, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2021–2022 Participant, Inclusive Pedagogy Initiative, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2020–2021 Participant, Anti-Racist Pedagogy Learning Community, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2021 Engaging with Your Practice with Priya Suresh Kambli (Online), Filter Photo, Chicago, IL

2020 Micro-Credential Course in Online Teaching, College of Education, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2019 View Camera Building Workshop, Standard Camera, Lillstreet Art Center, Chicago, IL

2019 Racial Storytelling Workshop, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

2019 “Be the Change,” anti-racism workshop, Ann Arbor Open at Mack, Ann Arbor, MI

2018 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance in online learning for GDT101, History of Graphic Design Online course, Center for Interactive Teaching and Learning (CiTL), Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI

2017	Inclusivity, Diversity and Anti-Racism Working Group, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2011	Certificate of Completion, Teaching Online: The 21st Century Classroom, College on Demand, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI
1992	Drawing and Art History in Spain, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI, led by Richard Fairfield and Richard Rubenfeld

Reviewer/Juror

2023–present	Reviewer, Day of Design, Graphic Design Program, Department of Art, Art History, and Design, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2022–2023	Awards Committees, Studio Art, Graphic Design, and History of Art, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2019–present	Graphic Design Reviewer, BFA Reviews, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2021	Photography Reviewer, Digital Media Arts Gala, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI
2021	Book Proposal Reviewer, A Definitive Guide to the Book Covers of Sarah Wyman Whitman, The University of Arkansas Press, Fayetteville, AR
2021	Graphic Design Reviewer, AIGA Midwest “Ope!” student virtual review
2020	Judge, Poster Contest "Celebrate 100 Years of Women's Suffrage... VOTE!", League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area, East Lansing, MI
2020	Online Course Reviewer/Review Participant, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2020	Photography Reviewer, Digital Media Arts Gala, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI
2020	Content Reviewer for Graphic Design Chapbook, Thinking Made Visible: Movement, Narrative, and the Work of Saul Bass, Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) Press, Rochester, NY
2011–2013	Graphic Design Reviewer, Digital Media Arts Gala, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI
1998	Art Juror, Cellar Roots, Eastern Michigan University’s Magazine of the Literary and Visual Arts, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

Organizer

2023	Co-organizer, AIGA Student Portfolio Review, with AIGA Detroit and AIGA West Michigan, hosted at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2019	Co-organizer, Bauhaus Typography Workshop, RCAH and AAHD, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

EXHIBITIONS

2024	2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum at Michigan State University, guest curated by Asha Iman Veal, Associate Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia College Chicago, with Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez, Curatorial Assistant at the MSU Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, MI
2023	Lowell Arts Center, Save What We Found, group exhibition curated by Laurén Brady and Rebecca Casement, Lowell, MI
2021	2021 MSU Department of Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial, Where We Dwell, MSU Broad Art Museum, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
2017	Washtenaw Community College Photographic Alternative Processes One Night Exhibition, Pearl Street Studios, Ypsilanti, MI

2017	Washtenaw Community College Photography Students Recent Works, Kerrytown Concert House, Ann Arbor, MI
2016	Seeing Differently: Alternative Photographic Processes at WCC, The Gallery at 22 North, Ypsilanti, MI
2013	Ann Arbor Area Crappy Camera Club (A3C3) Small Plates, juried exhibition, Argus Building, Ann Arbor, MI
2009	The Photography Collective, Townie Street Fair, Ann Arbor, MI
2009	Shaman Drum Exhibition, Ann Arbor Art Fair, Ann Arbor, MI
2006	Collaborative Book, Hollander's Book and Paper, Ann Arbor, MI
2006	Collaborative Letterpress Print, Hollander's Book and Paper, Ann Arbor, MI
2002	MFA Photography Thesis Exhibition, Glass Curtain Gallery, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL
2000	Winter Show, Graduate Student Exhibition, 11th Street Gallery, Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL
1999	20th Michigan Artists Competition, juried all-media exhibition, Art Center of Battle Creek, Battle Creek, MI
1999	MA Thesis Exhibition, Printmaking (solo), Ford Gallery, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1999	Annual Student Art Exhibition, juried all-media exhibition, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1999	Graduate Student Exhibition, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1998	Transparency, Group Exhibition, Intermedia Gallery, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1998	Sweetwaters Café exhibition with Matrix Gallery, Ann Arbor, MI
1997–1999	Off The Wall Gallery Exhibition, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI
1997–1999	The Print, juried printmaking competition, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI
1997–1999	Alma College State-wide Annual Print Competition, juried printmaking competition, exhibition travels around Michigan for one year, Alma, MI
1996	Michigan Drawing Biennial, juried drawing exhibition, Ford Gallery, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1995	All Media Group Show, juried all-media exhibition, The Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI
1994	Group Show, Art Attack Gallery, Chicago, IL
1993	Group Exhibition, Intermedia Gallery, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1989	Juried All-Media Exhibition, Flint Arts Council, Flint, MI

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- “Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial Exhibit Runs through July 21 at MSU Broad.” *College of Arts & Letters*, Michigan State University, 9 Feb. 2024, cal.msu.edu/news/art-art-history-and-design-faculty-triennial-exhibit-runs-through-july-21-at-msu-broad/?sc_campaign=14CD019AFA0748EE8B69B95803741D92&utm_source=insidemsu-email&utm_medium=em&utm_campaign=standard-promo&utm_content=text.
- “Check out Rebecca Gonzalez Cifaldi’s Story.” *Voyage Michigan Magazine*, Voyage Michigan, 26 June 2024, voyagemichigan.com/interview/check-out-rebecca-gonzalez-cifaldi-story/.
Local Stories
- “Connections.” *LowellArts*, LowellArts, 2023, <https://web.archive.org/web/20230923143552/https://www.lowellartsmi.org/exhibitions/connections>.
- Gonzalez, Rebecca. “Reconstructing the Feminine Form: Hannah Höch and Inez Van Lamsweerde.” *Columbia College Chicago*, 2008.
Thesis (M.F.A.)--Columbia College Chicago, 2008., 2008. Print.
- “Meet Rebecca Gonzalez Cifaldi.” *Canvas Rebel*, Canvas Rebel, 2 Oct. 2023, canvasrebel.com/meet-rebecca-gonzalez-cifaldi.

Stories & Insights

MSU Department of Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial Catalog, *Where We Dwell*, MSU Broad Art Museum, 2021. Michigan State University, College of Arts & Letters, Department of Art, Art History, and Design, 2021,

<https://web.archive.org/web/20211128095510/https://broadmuseum.msu.edu/exhibitions/2021-faculty-triennial/exhibition-brochure>, Accessed 2025.

Popielek, Kim. "Internationally Recognized MSU Art Faculty Explore Imagination Beyond Fantasy in Triennial Exhibition." *MSUToday*, Michigan State University, 23 Feb. 2024, msutoday.msu.edu/news/2024/msu-art-faculty-explore-imagination-beyond-fantasy-in-triennial-exhibition.

AWARDS/GRANTS/FELLOWSHIPS

2002	Finalist, National Graduate Seminar, The Photography Institute, New York, NY
1999	Best of Mixed Media, Annual Student Exhibition, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
1998–1999	Dorothy Lamming MFA scholarship, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

COLLECTIONS

Washtenaw Community College
Columbia College Chicago
Eastern Michigan University
Private Collections

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

2022–present	AIIGA—American Institute of Graphic Arts professional association
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OTHER EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

2012–present	Consultant, graphic design, Bum Bum Books, Ann Arbor, MI
2010–2013	Co-founder with Karen Ikola-Marin, Palladium Photography: portrait, location and fine art photography, Ann Arbor, MI
2007–present	Freelance Photography and Graphic Design, Ann Arbor, MI
2005–2007	Manager, Hollander's Decorative Paper and Bookbinding Supplies, Ann Arbor, MI
1999–2004	Marketing Specialist and Sign Maker, Whole Foods Market, River Forest, IL

SKILLS

Learning Management Systems

Photography, traditional and digital, non-silver/alternative process and black-and-white

Digital Applications, Mac or PC platform

Adobe Creative Cloud Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Lightroom, Bridge, Acrobat Pro, Dreamweaver, iMovie, FileMaker Pro, XHTML, HTML5 and CSS web coding, Procreate for iPad

Studio Art

drawing, printmaking—mixed media, monotype, woodcut, serigraphy, relief printing, letterpress, intaglio, lithography, silkscreen, chine collé, hand-drawn lettering, 2D and 3D work, traditional bookbinding—flat back book construction, accordion book construction, folding/sewing signatures, casing in text block

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER WORK

2020	App Reviewer, Atget Studio, online
2020	Graphic Design, logo design, Action Awareness, Brownstown, MI
2018	Organizer, Pop-up Photography Exhibition, Portfolio Projects, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI

2014–16	Volunteer Teacher, Friday Art Workshop, first and second grade class, Ann Arbor Open at Mack, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
2014	Graphic Design, logo design, Kamp Kurat, Ann Arbor, MI
2012	Graphic Design, event invitation, St. Mary's School, Rockwood, MI
2011	Graphic Design, event invitation, Young People's Theater (YPT), Ann Arbor, MI
2011	Costumes Team, Beauty and the Beast, YPT, Ann Arbor, MI
2006–2010	Founder and Member, The Photography Collective
2007–2010	Exhibition Volunteer, Ann Arbor Area Crappy Camera Club (A3C3)
2006– 2010	Graphic Design, Heritage Festival, Bach Elementary School, Ann Arbor, MI
2010	Technology Day Tour Guide, Washtenaw Community College, Ann Arbor, MI
2005, 2009–10	Hands-on Skills Demonstrator, Hollander's School of Book and Paper Arts, Kerrytown Book Fest, Ann Arbor
1994	Volunteer Teacher, Lillstreet Gallery, Ceramics Studio, Chicago, IL
1994	Usher, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago, IL
1994	Member and Conference Volunteer, Chicago Artists Coalition, Chicago, IL
1993	Volunteer Teacher, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI
1992	Member and Gallery Volunteer, The Detroit Artists Market, Detroit, MI
1992	Ann Arbor Art Fair Intern, Washtenaw Council for the Arts, Ann Arbor, MI