NINA BELLISIO

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EDUCATION

EdD, College Teaching of Art (in progress, expected 2027)
Teachers College, Columbia University | New York, NY

Certificate in Creative Technologies, 2026
Teachers College, Columbia University | New York, NY

Certificate in Online Teaching, 2022
Rutgers University Division of Continuing Studies | New Brunswick, NJ

MFA, Art Practice (with honors), 1999
University of California, Berkeley | Berkeley, CA

BFA, Fine Arts, Concentration in Photography, 1996
Cornell University | Ithaca, NY

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dean of Institutional Assessment and Educational Technology

St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2026–Present

- Design, implement, and oversee the College's Institutional Assessment Plan across academic, co-curricular, and operational areas
- Chair the Institutional Assessment Committee and partner with academic Deans and Cabinet to drive continuous improvement in program and general education outcomes
- Serve as MSCHE Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO), leading accreditation strategy, reporting, and standards compliance in accordance with Middle States requirements.
- Serve as system administrator for Canvas and Navigate
- Partner with IT and the CIO to shape the College's academic technology vision and lead faculty development workshops integrating emerging technology and pedagogy into curriculum and instruction.

Professor of Graphic Design

St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2016–Present

- Communications, Media, and Design Department Coordinator
- Executive Counsellor for Technology (2021-2025)
- Develop and teach Design courses at all undergraduate levels
- Advise students, review portfolios and aid in job and internship placement
- Chair of Academic Technology Committee (2018-2025) and General Education Committee
- Nominated member of the Honors Committee
- Committee Membership: Policies and Procedures, Information Technology, Institutional Assessment Committee, College Planning Board, Tenure and Promotion

Assistant Dean of Curricular Innovation and Evaluation & MSCHE Accreditation Liaison Officer

St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2021–2026

Assistant Professor of Visual Communications

St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2011–2016

Assistant Dean of Curriculum, School of Arts and Sciences

St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2018–2021

Director, Azarian-McCullough Art Gallery
St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2013–2018

- Coordinate and curate gallery programming during academic year
- Develop educational support materials and publicity for exhibitions
- Manage operating budget, student workers, contracts and insurance documentation

E-Learning Consultant
Jewish Partisan Educational Foundation | 2008–2011

- Consult on e-learning formats and technical specifications for educational website
- Provide focus group and user testing

Instructor
Art Institutes of California – San Francisco | 1999–2010

- Taught Graphic Design, Photography, Art History and Online courses
- Designed all course curriculum including class essays, projects and lectures
- Assisted in departmental budgeting and new instructor training

Digital Instructor and Education Assistant
First Exposures: Youth Opportunities through Photography | 2007–2010

- Taught digital photography class
- Assisted in mentor selection and training
- Coordinated collaborative projects and curated gallery exhibitions of student work

E-Learning Producer / Project Manager
The George Lucas Educational Foundation / Edutopia | 2008–2009

- Produced and managed website highlighting extended learning day curriculum
- Managed freelance writers and editors, developed written content
- Assisted in video production and educational content development

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT & ACCREDITATION

MSCHE Accreditation Liaison Officer (ALO)
St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2021–Present

- Serve as primary point of contact between the institution and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), managing all official correspondence, compliance filings, and reporting obligations
- Co-authored and edited the institution's MSCHE Self-Study Report, a comprehensive multi-chapter document demonstrating compliance with all seven MSCHE Standards for Accreditation and Requirements of Affiliation
- Designed and built the evidence collection infrastructure for the self-study process, including a systematic repository for organizing, labeling, and uploading institutional documentation to the MSCHE portal
- Led and coordinated self-study Steering Committee and Working Groups across academic and administrative divisions, facilitating gap analysis, evidence review, and iterative drafting
- Prepared and submitted Substantive Change applications, Annual Institutional Update reports, and other official filings required by MSCHE throughout the accreditation cycle
- Coordinated the institution's Verification of Compliance process, ensuring all Requirements of Affiliation were documented and addressed within the self-study framework
- Hosted and facilitated the MSCHE Evaluation Team visit, including scheduling stakeholder interviews, coordinating logistics, and managing real-time document requests during the on-site review

Program Assessment Coordinator — School of STEM & School of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS)
St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2021–Present

- Support faculty in identifying, articulating, and mapping program-level Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) to course-level objectives, degree requirements, and institutional mission

- Collect, organize, and analyze annual assessment data submitted by program coordinators; synthesize findings into school-level reports used for continuous improvement planning
- Guide departments through academic program review processes, including development of assessment plans, collection of direct and indirect evidence of student learning, and documentation of program changes resulting from assessment findings
- Maintain program assessment records and ensure documentation is current, complete, and available for accreditation review and internal planning purposes

General Education Assessment Coordinator

St. Thomas Aquinas College | 2021–Present

- Oversee institution-wide assessment of General Education program outcomes, coordinating data collection across departments and disciplines
- Collaborate with faculty to ensure General Education learning goals are embedded in course design, assessed systematically, and used to drive curriculum revision and improvement
- Develop and maintain assessment instruments, rubrics, and reporting templates to support consistent, meaningful evaluation of student achievement of General Education competencies

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS

2026 American Association of Teaching and Curriculum: *Designing Engagement: Collaboration in a First-Year Seminar*

2025 ISTE Live: *Bridging College Learning and Childhood Literacy*

2024 ISTE Live (Denver): *A Crisis of Academic Motivation in Undergraduate Students*

2024 SECAC: *From the Margin to the Center: Rediscovering Ignored Art Education Practices*

2022 ISTE Live: *XLab: Agile: Interdisciplinary Experiential Learning* – Poster Session

2021 109th CAA Annual Conference: *12 Big Ideas: An Interdisciplinary First Year Seminar*

2021 FATE: *Infrastructure: Shaking Things Up: Creativity in a Changing Landscape*

2020 Eastern Economics Association 46th Annual Conference: *Gender Employment Bias in Popular Culture*

2019 107th CAA Annual Conference: *Eliminating Command Z: Analog Techniques in a Digital Discipline*

2019 Decentralized: Creative Technology at Teachers College: *Artifacts of Growth Mindset*

2018 MACAA Techne Expanding: *Illustrator and Letraset: Developing Hand Skills in a Digital Discipline*

2017 SECAC Annual Conference Panel Chair: *Small College Open Session: Advantages and Challenges*

2017 FATE: Beyond the Core: *Working with Less, Working Together*

2016 SECAC Annual Conference Panel Chair: *A Program's A Program, No Matter How Small*; Presentation: *Big Ideas, Small Classes: Design in a Liberal Arts College*

2016 ITI ThinkTank Selected Participant

2016 Nuts and Bolts: AIGA Design Educators Conference: *Profession/Faculty Engagement*

2015 SECAC Annual Conference Panel Chair: *Teaching at the Intersection of Design and Creativity*

2015 STAC Research Retreat: *Instituting Ambition: Preparing Students for the Now and Later*

2015 FATE: Tectonic Shifts Panel Co-Chair: *Primary Source: The College Art Gallery as Educational Tool*; Presentation: *Consciously Creative: Where Sustainability Meets Design Education*

2014 MACAA MASH-UP: *Where Does Passion Start And How That Desire Evolves Through Uncertainty?* – Panel Co-Chair

2014 13th Biennial Colloquium of Dominican Colleges and Universities: *Teaching Design as an Ethical and Sustainable Practice*

2014 Open Engagement 2014: *Sustainable Practices in Teaching Design*

2014 STAC Faculty Research Retreat Panel: *Food, Inc: A Discourse about Sustainability*

2014 Spark! 2014 NAEA National Convention: *Using Social Media as a Research Tool*

2013 SECAC Annual Conference: *Tibor Kalman: The Politics of Design*

2013 STAC Faculty Research Retreat: *Design In Process*

2012 STAC Faculty Research Retreat: *Youth Organizations in Art & Design*; Panel: *Tree of Life*

2011 SF Camerawork Gallery: *The City Unfolded First Exposures & 826 Valencia in Collaboration* (Curator)

2010 SF Camerawork Gallery: *Looking Forward, Giving Back* (Curator)

2010 Art Institute of California Faculty Development Seminar: *Advanced Easygrade Pro* (Workshop Leader)

2009 Tenderloin Afterschool Program Summer Photography Workshop (Workshop Leader)

2009 Art Institute of California Faculty Development Seminar: *Teaching with Technology* (Panel)

2008 Re-Imagining Teacher Education: Apple and The George Lucas Educational Foundation

2008 Art Institute of California Faculty Development Seminar: *Using Rubrics* (Panel)

2008 First Exposures Photography Program Guest Lecturer: *An Intro to Photo History*

2007 Intent/Content: AIGA Graphic Design Education Conference: *Integrating Sustainability into Graphic Design Pedagogy*

2007 Art Institute of California Faculty Development Seminar: *Intro to Easygrade Pro* (Workshop Leader)

AWARDS, HONORS & APPOINTMENTS

2025 Myers Art Prize, Teachers College, Columbia University

2022 Artivism Grant: The Talisman Project – Artifacts of Growth Mindset, Adelphi University

2022 Faculty Development Grant, St. Thomas Aquinas College

2020 Faculty Development Grant, St. Thomas Aquinas College

2018 Myers Art Prize, Teachers College, Columbia University

2018 Provost's Grant for Conference Presentation & Professional Development, Columbia University Teachers College

2018 Faculty Development Grant, St. Thomas Aquinas College

2006 The Dean's Award – Faculty Excellence Award in the Area of Teaching, Art Institute of California, San Francisco

1999 Eisner Prize in Visual Art, Department of Art Practice, University of California, Berkeley

1997–1999 Marian Hahn Simpson Fellowship in Art, Dept of Art Practice, University of California, Berkeley

VP for Outreach, ITI Advisory Board, Integrative Teaching International

Member, Business Advisory Board for Graphic Design, Rockland BOCES

CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP / EXHIBITIONS

2024 SECAC Exhibition: Generative AI and Creative Coding

2023 September Primer – Macy Art Gallery, Columbia University Teachers College

2019 Decentralized: Creative Technologies Exhibition – Macy Art Gallery, Columbia University Teachers College

2018 Fluid Perimeters: Myers Art Prizes – Macy Art Gallery, Columbia University Teachers College

2011, 2013, 2016 St. Thomas Aquinas College Faculty Art Exhibit – Azarian-McCullough Art Gallery, Sparkill, NY

2010 Roll Call – SF Camerawork Gallery, San Francisco, CA (catalog)

2010 First Exposures: Looking Forward, Giving Back – SF Camerawork Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2008 ArtSpan / SF Open Studios – Rayko Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2008 Art of Teaching – Art Institute of California Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2005 Bodies of Knowledge – Magnet, San Francisco, CA

2005 Nina Bellisio: New Work – Roshambo Winery + Gallery, Healdsburg, CA

2004 Art in City Hall: The Home Show – San Francisco City Hall, San Francisco, CA

2001 PhotoMetro 18th Annual Contest Exhibition – San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery (juried by Duane Michaels; catalog)

2001 Threshold: 2001 Faculty Art Show – Art Institute of California Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2000 Holiday Inn – Hudson D. Walker Gallery, Provincetown, MA
2000 Emerge: New Work by MFA Graduates – Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA (catalog)
2000 Blind Date UK/CA – The Basement Gallery, University of California, Davis
1999 Plays Well Together – Worth Ryder Gallery, University of California, Berkeley
1999 25/25 – Southern Exposure Gallery, San Francisco, CA (catalog)

PUBLICATIONS

Bellisio, Nina. "From Invisibility to Community: Teaching the Practice of Creativity." Illuminations of Social Imagination: Learning From Maxine Greene. DIO Press Inc., New York, 2020.

Bellisio, Nina. "Student Voices: Response to Art School Critique 2.0." Art School Critique 2.0, ed. Richard Jochum. Ragged Sky Press, 2017.

Bellisio, Nina (contributing author). "Agents of Change: Facilitating Collegial Investment and Support." futureforward Citizen/Artist, vol. 5, no. 1, April 2017.

FREELANCE EXPERIENCE

2009 Contributing Photographer – Edutopia Magazine, April 2009
2009 Photographer – The Spirit movie promotion (www.mycityscreams.com)
2008 Photographer – Lizard Press (www.lizardpress.com)
2007 Photographer – A Shine and Co. (www.ashineandco.com)
2005 Contributing Photographer – Readymade Magazine, Issue 20, Winter 2005
2004 Contributing Photographer – Readymade Magazine, Issue 10, Spring 2004
2003 Contributing Photographer – Readymade Magazine, Issue 8, Fall 2003

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP & CERTIFICATION

Faculty Advisor, St. Thomas Aquinas College Student Chapter, Kappa Pi Art Honors Society
Faculty Advisor, St. Thomas Aquinas College Student Chapter, AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Arts)
Digital Media Advisory Board, Santa Clara Unified School District (2005–2010)
Graphic Design Program Advisory Committee (PAC), Art Institute of California–San Francisco (2000–2010)
Member, College Art Association (CAA)
Member, Foundations in Art: Theory and Education (FATE)
Member, Southeastern College Art Conference (SECAC)
Member, Society of Photographic Educators (SPE)
Member, International Society of Technology in Education (ISTE)
Member, National Art Education Association (NAEA)

COURSES TAUGHT — ST. THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE

Graphic Design Foundations | Digital Studio | Digital Photography | Documentary Photography | ART 247 Studio Friday Workshop | Photographic Concepts | Publication Design | Web Design | Digital Media Art | Advanced Web Design | Internship in Graphic Design | Brand Development | Gallery Design and Management

COURSES TAUGHT — ART INSTITUTE OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO

Color Theory | Image Manipulation | Digital Image Manipulation (online) | Introduction to Photography | Advanced Image Manipulation | Photography II | Special Topics: Advanced Photography | Special Topics: Web Design | Design Team I & II | Senior Project I & II | Visual Language & Culture | Contemporary Art | Project Study