

MICHAEL D HART

OFFICE            STUDIO

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## EDUCATION

The New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, Alfred, NY

M.F.A. Sculpture / Dimensional Studies with concentration in glass 2004

Thesis: Laboro, Ergo Sum

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

B.F.A. with a concentration in glass 2001

*Magna Cum Laude*

Kankakee Community College, Kankakee, IL

A.F.A., A.A. 1998

## AWARDS

GSU Intellectual Life Grant “Panel discussion on the state of Special needs students on our campus” 2019

Volunteer of the Year – Momence Theatre Restoration Project, Momence, IL 2007

Teaching Assistantship, Alfred University, Alfred, NY 2002 – 2004

New Glass Review 2002

Merit Scholarship, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 2000 – 2001

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Governors State University, University Park, IL

#### Senior Lecturer – Sculpture 2012 – current

- Provide instruction for online Worlds of Art
- Provide instruction for Face to Face and online Art Appreciation courses
- Developed online content for Glass, Sculpture and 3D Fundamentals courses during COVID off-campus instruction.
- Co-taught classes with theater personal in stagecraft for the theater majors.
- Created stage props for several productions in conjunction with various visiting and in-house directors.
- Worked directly with Center for the Performing Arts personal in troubleshooting the construction, delivery and installation of various large- and small-scale props for student productions.
- 2015/16 currently awaiting curricular review of the newly designed course structure for the BFA program.
- Oversaw all course and curriculum development, provided instruction, and conducted studio management in the sculpture area of the Fine Arts area.
- Advisor for all sculpture undergraduate and graduate majors
- Serve as chair for sculpture graduate thesis committees.
- Courses of instruction include Introduction to, Intermediate, and advance glass, sculpture, and figure sculpture, 2d and 3d freshman foundations, basic drawing.
- Art Dept. Safety Person 2015-2018

#### Lecturer - Sculpture 2006 – 2012

- Oversaw all course and curriculum development,
- Provided instruction, and conducted studio management in the sculpture area of the Fine Arts area.
- Advisor for all sculpture undergraduate and graduate majors,
- Served as chair for sculpture graduate thesis committee's.
- Developed Sculpture track for the addition of the B.F.A. degree curriculum.

#### Adjunct Instructor

- Developed courses within the sculpture area.
- Re-tooled the sculpture studio.
- Provided all sculpture instruction.

Kankakee Community College, Kankakee, ILAdjunct Instructor 2004-2006

- Provided instruction in foundations art courses including, Drawing 1, Figure Drawing 1 & 2, 3 Dimensional Fundamentals and Sculpture 1.
- Researched and purchased all equipment for the new fine arts building sculpture lab.

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## RELATED EXPERIENCE

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University Professionals of Illinois 4100 Governors State University chapter

## Chapter President 2021-current

- Unit B Lecturer Vice President 2008-2021
- Lead Contract Negotiator 2022-current
- Lead Mobilizer 2016-2021
- UPI local Executive Board 2017-current
- Illinois Federation of Teachers Higher Ed Constituency Council member 2017 – current
- Chicago Labor Council delegate 2014 - current

Michael D Hart Studios, Momence, IL

## Owner/Designer/Artist 1998 – Present

- 2023 working towards solo show “Neurodivergent Rebels” 2024 Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington IL
- 2016/17 – created an outdoor private commission containing nine ¾ -scale figures to be made of industrial wire.
- 2015/16 - researching a living sculpture for a local park built out of willow to provide a meditation space and butterfly garden.
- 2015/16 – working on personal designs for my autism series of sculpture “Neurodivergent Rebels”
- 2015/16 – completed carving a large wooden wing private commission piece
- 2014 – Created a large body of ½ scale figurative work made from chicken wire for Woldhuis Farms Sunrise Nursery.
- 2014 – Worked on designs for a 120sq ft. stained-glass window for Adlei E Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire, IL.
- 2014 – Built a line of employee action figures for Able Sewage Company, Momence, IL.
- 2014 – Cast rubber molds to recreate turn of the century plaster trim out of resin for a century old theater.

- 2014 – Currently working on designs for a life-sized figure sculpture memorial for the Ross McNeely cancer foundation.
- 2013 – Designed a 15’ tall elephant to be fabricated for the summer production of Les Miserables.
- 2013 - Designed, fabricated and installed custom 16’ tall rainwater harvesting sculpture for the Kankakee Community Pilot Community Garden.
- 2010-12 Designed and Fabricated custom stained glass butterfly glass panel for the biennial Kankakee Hospice charity auction.
- 2013 - Designed and Fabricated 50 custom glass volunteer awards for the Bradley Park District.
- Designed and fabricated custom stained-glass panels for annual St Patrick’s School charity auctions. 2009, 2008,2007
- Custom mural donation for Ernest E. Giasson Jr. cancer benefit. 2008
- Designed and fabricated life-sized replicas of the Chicago Art Institute Lions out of paper maché for the annual Bishop McNamara High School charity auction. 2008
- Designed Pet Memorial sculpture for Kankakee County Pet Federation. 2007
- Create, design (sketch, working drawing, blueprint), fabricate, pack, install, de-install and market custom 3-dimensional artwork.

### OMG! It’s Paper, Momence, IL

Owner/Artist 2008 – 2010

- Designed, fabricated and marketed recycled cast paper functional art and home décor items.

### Dry Creek Cabinets, Momence, IL

Designer, Fabricator, Installer 2005 – 2008

- Active in all aspects of design, fabrication and installation for mid to high end custom furniture, cabinets and kitchens.

### Restoration Works Inc., Bradley, IL

## General Manager 2006 - 2008

### Workshop Manager 2005 – 2006

- Oversaw all aspects of the restoration of 100+-year-old woodwork and windows in commercial and privately owned buildings and homes.
- Training of new employees in areas such as rebuilding of traditionally crafted window sash, doors and shutters, new milling of windows and doors to match originals, including the use of traditional joinery techniques.
- Set up workshop production schedules, pick-up and delivery schedules, correlated field needs with on-site contractors, developed window glazing techniques, oversaw custom stain, paint, and finishing matching to original specs. Custom matched resin fill colors to coincide with original wood and stain matching.
- In charge of all wood orders and material purchasing and acquisitions as well as all quality control inspections.
- At the height, I oversaw 75 workers in 2 separate locations (plus 10 field workers at various locations) over 2 shifts.

## Alfred University, Alfred, NY 2003, 2004

### Special Maintenance

- 2004 - Fire Stop Technician – fire stop prevention in art department buildings including researching materials, planning, troubleshooting any non-specific special needs and condition areas, and purchasing all materials to adhere to fire stop budgets and deadlines.
- 2004 – initiated the installation of a new High Temperature Research Facility in the sculpture annex of the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University.
- 2003 – Designed and built new papermaking/ mixed media sculpture area in the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University.

## Alfred University, Alfred NY 2002 – 2004

### Teaching Assistant

- Daily running of a large-scale glass working facility, kept up with inventories, ordering of materials, worked with up to 90 students, troubleshooting of any problems, designing and fabrication of new equipment, maintaining of existing equipment in glass-blowing, glass-casting, cold-working, and mold-making facilities.
- Directly taught students in sophomore level glassblowing classes, junior level glass casting and blowing classes, and freshmen foundations in art.

### Tacoma Museum of Glass, Tacoma, WA 2003

#### Lead Glass Caster

- Troubleshoot and implemented as lead glass caster the ladled glass portion of glass artist Thor Bueno's performance at the First Annual Crystal Ball Gala Fundraiser.

### Fenton Glass, Williamstown, WV

#### Glass Internship

- Troubleshoot the factory glassblowing process with the aid of a thermo-graphic camera.
- Developed hydro-cal blow molds for faster prototype production on the factory floor.
- Designed and created handle proto-types for future work.

### Nicholas Africano Studios, Normal, IL 1999 - 2002

#### Artist Assistant

- Assisted in all areas of fabrication for cast glass figurative sculpture including wax figure modeling, mold-making (plaster, rubber, plastic, alginate, moulage, plaster/silica investment), casting of glass, cold-working, fabrication of multiple glass parts, and creation of piece specific crates for shipping.

### Dann Nardi Studios, Normal, IL 1999 – 2002

#### Artist Assistant

- Assisted in the fabrication and installation of large-scale, sitespecific, concrete sculpture.
- Duties included:
  - o working in a complete woodshop
  - o making all custom concrete forms per the artist's drawings and instructions
  - o preparing the site to be built on
  - o installing all molds
  - o custom mixing the colors of the concrete
  - o concrete finishing in both the pouring and postpouring stages.

### Continuing Education/Professional Development

Peter McGrain – Glass Workshop – Master Class – Vitri Fusaille 2012

Peter McGrain – Glass Workshop – Painting on Glass 2011

Peter McGrain – Glass Workshop – Vitri Fusaille 2011

T.R. Biddle – Glass Workshop – Hot/Cold Glass Integration 2011

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## PUBLICATIONS

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### Neus Glass/ New Glass Review #25

- Annual International Glass Competition 2002 showcasing the top 100 glass artists in the world

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## EXHIBITION RECORD

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2016- FACULTY BIENNIAL – GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

2015 – ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI SHOW – NORMAL, IL

- JURORS SHOW – GRETCHEN CHARLTON GALLERY, KANKAKEE, IL

2014- APRIL PAPER STREET GALLERY, MOMENCE, IL, CURATOR, ARTIST

“YES, WE ARE FROM ILLINOIS, NO, WE ARE NOT FROM CHICAGO”

2014 – JUNE PAPER STREET GALLERY, MOMENCE, IL, INVITATIONAL

2013 – Upper East Side Gallery, Momence, IL, Invitational

2012 – Hospice Charity Auction (live auction showcase), Kankakee, IL, Invitational

2011 – Past KCC Faculty Exhibit, Kankakee, IL, Invitational

2010 – St. Patrick’s School Live Auction, Momence, IL, Invitational

2009 – Governor’s State University Faculty Show, University Park, IL, Group

- St. Patrick’s School Live Auction, Momence, IL, Invitational

2008 – Governor’s State University All Area Faculty Exhibit, University Park, IL, Group

- St. Patrick’s School Live Auction, Momence, IL, Invitational

2007 – Governor’s State University Faculty Show, University Park, IL, Group

- 2006 – Governor’s State University All Area Faculty Exhibit, University Park, IL, Group
- 2005 – Governor’s State University Faculty Show, University Park, IL, Group
- 2004 – “ Laboro, Ergo Sum” – Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art, Alfred, NY, Solo MFA Thesis Exhibition
- 2003 – “West Coast, Midwest, East Coast” – Robert Turner Gallery, Alfred, NY, Group
- “Experimental Set: Trash with No Starz”, Artsite, Wellsville, NY, Group
- Mulberry Invitational Show and Auction, University Galleries, Normal, IL, Group, Invitational
- 2002 – “Rudimentum” – Kankakee Community College, Kankakee, IL, Solo
- “Brought to you by the letter “A””, University Galleries, Normal, IL, Solo
- Mulberry Invitational Show and Auction, University Galleries, Normal, IL, Group, Invitational
- BFA Annual Exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, Group
- 2000 – Alumni Biennial, Kankakee Community College, Kankakee, IL, Group
- BFA Annual Exhibition, University Galleries, Kankakee, IL, Group
- Mulberry Invitational Show and Auction, University Galleries, Normal, IL, Group, Invitational
- 1999 – BFA Annual Exhibition, University Galleries, Normal, IL, Group

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## Exhibitions Curated

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- 2014 – Jerry and Chelise Slowik Retrospective, Paper Street Gallery, Momence, IL
- 2014 – David Gribbins New Works, Paper Street Gallery
- 2014 – “Yes, We Are From Illinois, No, We Are Not From Chicago”, Paper Street Gallery, Momence, IL
- 2014 – Brenda Farris New Works, Paper Street Gallery, Momence, IL
- 2014 – Hugh Butterfield Retrospective, Paper Street Gallery, Momence, IL
- 2014 – Steven Bukowski New Works, Paper Street Gallery, Momence, IL



2003 – “West Coast, Midwest, East Coast” – Robert Turner Gallery, Alfred, NY, *Group*

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## Exhibitions Juried

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2015 – Park Forest Art Faire, Park Forest, IL

2012 – Joliet Junior College Student Show, Joliet, IL

2011 – Gretchen Charlton Gallery Members Show, Kankakee, IL

2008 – Joliet Junior College Student Show, Joliet, IL

2007 – Park Forest Art Fair, Park Forest, IL

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## Visiting Artist Lectures

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2016 – Je-Neir elementary, visiting artist

2016 - Momence HS, visiting artist

2013 – Stagg High School Art Dept., visiting lecturer

2012 – Kankakee Community College, visiting artist

2011 – Kankakee Community College, visiting lecturer

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## Community Involvement

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2015 – current – Momence High School football flag crew

2022-current – Momence Youth Football Coach – 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade offensive line coach, defensive line coach, defensive end coach, strength coach, defensive coordinator

2021 – Momence Youth Football Coach – 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade offensive line coach, linebacker coach, defensive coordinator

2019 – current – American Federation of Teachers instructor for loan forgiveness member education

2018 – current – Momence School district “Best Buddies” parent volunteer

2017 – worked with the Center for Performing Arts making props for the presentation of “The Scarlet Letter”

2017 – current – Momence High School football program chain gang member

2016 - 2019 – Momence Park District volunteer

2016 - current– Momence youth center volunteer

2013-18- Founding Member- Be Art Momence, Momence, IL

- An organization concerned with bringing and promoting arts and cultural events to Momence, IL

2013 – Acting Out Theater Company – Special Prop Artist for 2014 production of Les Miserables

2011-2012 – member – Downtown Revitalization Steering Committee, Momence, IL

- A cross section of residents dedicated to restoring and reviving the downtown area of Momence, IL. This includes meeting with architects, and working with Mainstreet Illinois, a state department that aids in the revitalization of historic communities.

2010 – Michelle Baldwin-Bruckman Benefit – Donated custom artwork to help the surviving children of a young local woman who passed away suddenly.

2010 – 2012 New Trail Outfitters, Momence, IL

- Worked with local youth group in the fabrication of custom trophies for an annual archery competition.
- Helped to design and fabricate a portable skateboard park for a local youth skate jam.
- Continue to help install/ takedown portable skateboard park for monthly indoor and outdoor skate jams.

2008 – Ernest E. Giasson Cancer Benefit, Momence, IL

Donated a custom wall mural/sculpture to raise money for the family of a local resident and close friend.

2008 – Bishop McNamara High School, Kankakee, IL

- Created life-sized replicas of the Chicago Museum of the Art Institute Lions out of paper maché for this private high school’s annual charity event.

2007 – Momence Theatre Friends, Momence, IL

- Ongoing restoration project to accurately restore a local 100+-year-old theatre.
- Volunteer of the Year: 2007

2006 – 2008 - Momence Mainstreet Organization: Design Committee Member

2005 – 2007 – Kankakee Valley Animal Federation, Kankakee, IL

- Designer/ Model maker for the community pet memorial in Perry Farm, Bradley, IL

2007 – Kankakee Valley Youth Theater, Kankakee, IL

- Set director/ Sculptor for the production of CS Lewis' "The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe".

2006 – 2008 Momence Youth Football Association, Momence, IL

2008 – 7-9 yr. old advanced instructional – offensive/defensive line coach

2007 – 5-7 yr. old instructional – offensive/defensive line coach, linebacker coach

2006 – 5-7 yr. old instructional – offensive/defensive line coach, linebacker coach

2007 – 2008 – 11-13 yr. old varsity defensive line coach

2016 – 7-9 yr. old advanced instructional – offense/defense line, linebacker coach

## Artistic Skills and Technical Abilities

### Glass

- Advanced technical knowledge in kiln-casting, hot (ladle) casting, fusing, slumping, pate de verre, cold-working/grinding, sheet glass cutting, vitri-fusaille
- Intermediate glass blowing skills
- Kiln maintenance and rebuilding

### Metal

- Advanced knowledge in bronze, aluminum, copper, iron, and lead casting
- Advanced metal fabrication skills using MIG, Arc, and oxy/acetylene welding
- Plasma and torch cutting experience
- Advanced knowledge in finishing and patination
- Basic knowledge of metal forge and blacksmithing tools and techniques
- Overall knowledge of most metal fabrication equipment including: grinders, band-saw, drill press, tap and die, rolling mill, tube benders, and metal brake.

### Modeling

- Wax, plaster, oil and water-based clays, foam
- Extensive experience in modeling the human figure
- Enlarging and scale conversion

- Creation of abstract forms

### Wood

- High degree of experience with most major wood shop tools and equipment including: Table saws, scroll saws, shaper, jointer, drill press, panel sander, mortise, tenon cutter, router and all accouterments, all hand tools and power carving equipment.
- Finishing, staining, painting, oiling and waxing of finished wood pieces.

### Mold-making

- High degree of experience in plaster, rubber, silicone, plastic, wax, resin bonded sand, CO2 set sand, graphite, wood and steel mold making techniques.

### Computer

- Working knowledge of Microsoft office applications
- Working knowledge of adobe graphics programs

### Rendering/Drawing

- Very comfortable in rendering finished artwork, working drawings, and rough sketches in chalks, graphite, or pen and ink.
- Familiar with most drafting equipment and processes on paper.
- Solid knowledge in producing working blueprints.

### Papermaking

- High degree of knowledge in all aspects of paper making, pulling sheets, and packing molds with various paper pulps.
- Knowledgeable in the making of various paper pulps.

### Stained-Glass

- Proficient in all aspects of stained-glass design, fabrication and restoration.
- Highly proficient in all forms of came technologies including traditional lead, copper foil, zinc, and brass.
- Highly proficient with all diamond grinding and surfacing tools used in the stained-glass studio.
- Expert in glass cutting and grozing techniques.
- Proficient in support systems and rebar placement.

## Restoration Abilities

- Identification of period stylings of architecture and joinery.
- Identification of old growth wood species.
- Identify areas of removal on historic wood, determining what can and cannot be salvaged.
- Expert in the use of various epoxies, both applied and cast, in the course of high-end historic restoration.
- Determine weather stripping systems needed to adequately replace original historic weather stripping.
- Capable of both the removal of and re-glazing of historic glass panels.
- Traditional joinery techniques to match period construction