

Yvonne Shortt
(917 597 3089)
Queens, NY
www.rpgastudio.org

I have taken the artistic concept of studio and applied it to the non profit realm. As an artist, technologist, mathematician, African- American, activist, and mother I use my creative powers for transformation in my community. I use a variety of materials from plastic, paint, community engagement, design, and math to create and collaborate around education, land, transportation, and inequity. I always work in some way with the community and everything I create is around an issue I see in my community.

Curatorial- Launched Queens Art Intervention to provide a collaborative weekend in Queens, NY for artists, makers, designers, and architects interested in using their skills to educate, inspire, and empower residents in Queens, NY.

*Queens Art Intervention is a weekend of 30 outdoor projects in 15 communities in Queens, NY meant to inspire, empower, and question the community, the residents, and the artists. It's also a way for me to connect with other like minded artists, makers, and community residents.

Queens Art Intervention Weekend 2015

Highlights

Mobile Mobil: A meditation mobile that traveled to communities with a variety of calming images and Queens Jazz Greats. Participants were invited into the truck to sit on cushions, relax, listen to greats like Louie Armstrong, and view a projection of kaleidoscope of calming images on the ceiling

Urban Garden: A garden box (7'x4') that can be dropped in any cement space to create greenery & and community engagement around gardening.

Queens Art Intervention Day 2014

Highlights include

Stat Girl- Die Cut super hero named Stat Girl put on several dangerous streets to deliver the staggering number of individuals killed or hurt during accidents involving walkers, bicyclists, and drivers.

Pipeline to Prison: Installation in a NYCHA building. Installation included a school desk surrounded by the iron fence often used as gates to enter some schools. It examined the role schools played in the controversial issue of young special education students and their trajectory into the prison system.

Launched CC3DP (Creative Challenge in 3D Design and Fabrication)

CC3DP was launched as a way to educate young 3rd - 8th graders in the fields of design, making, and architecture; to give this young group some skills and access to the kinds of opportunities open to them.

*CC3DP is a challenge where 3rd through 8th graders in NYC public elementary and middle schools are given the opportunity to participate in a 3d design and printing challenge. Coaches are taught the basics of CAD design and 3d printing and assigned a challenge question. The coaches work for 12-16 weeks with the students. Industrial designers, engineers, and architects visit teams and discuss what they do. They also work on the challenge question with the team. In the middle of spring students participate in a challenge event where they show their fabricated items, take part in a design challenge, share their work with the community, and compete for awards.

Artistic Awards

- (2015) Queens Council On the Arts -Community Engaged Artists
- (2015) Queens Council On the Arts -Queens Art Intervention
- (2015) National Arts Strategy
- (2013) Second Sense: Judi Jasek Award: 2D and 3D work
- (2013) American Printing House: Chicago College of Optometry Honorable Mention
2D and 3D works
- (2013) NYC: Lomography: Short Film: Snow. A Love Story: 2nd Place
- (2012) American Printing House: First Place Craft

Selected Public Work

- Pause Pod (NYC 2016) Legos & Virtual Reality. SBS Upcoming 2016
- Modular Components (NYC 2015) Legos. QPL & QCA Commission
- Transportation Safety Card Game (NYC, 2015) QCA
- MudSlide (NYC, 2015 136' x 12') Mural. Council member Commission
- Underpass Art Gallery (NYC, 2014) 136' x 12' Mural & Photography (6) 4'x6'
Councilmember Commission
- Girl with Umbrella (NYC, Oregon, Washington 2014) Paint & Plastic. 6' x15' Mural
- Stat Girl (Laser Cut 4'x 2') NYC
- Girl On Swing (NYC. 2014) 6'x12' Mural
- Maker Faire (CT, 2014) 5'x4' Plastic Cow Installation
- Geometric Shapes Mural (2013) 70'x 6'
- Little Garden Design (NYC, 2013) 10 x 4000' Plants & Soil. Anadale Park
- Little Garden Mural (NYC, 2013) 5'x200' Anadale Park
- Photosynthesis (2012 10'x40') Mural. P.S. 139
- Schoolyard Robot Mural (2010 200'x13'): Mayor Bloomberg's Office
- 63rd Drive Mural (2009 115'x12'): Rego Park
- Handprint Mural (2009 8'x12': by Rego Park
- Alderton Garden Installation ((2011-2013)) : Soil & Plants. United Healthcare
- Paper Dress (2011-2012) 3'x5' (6 dresses). Disney

Residencies:

- Queens Public Library. Adults, elementary school students, middle School students, & High School Students. (Photography Old School, Collaborative Design, 3D Design & Printing, Robotics, Collaborative Mural design)
- DOE.3rd-8th. Residencies in Robotics, Scratch, 3D design & Printing, Photography. Design for Social Awareness, Card game Design.
- Non Profits. Training after school professionals in 3D design, robotics, collaborative design, creating with stencils. Working with 4 year olds through seniors on outdoor projects including painting and garden design.

Special Projects:

- Pedestrian Penguin Card Game 2015.
- NYC Empowers 2014. The African American Perspective: 12 photos 24"x 24"
- American Printing House: 2014 Calendar: Paper Dresses
- Spell of the Iris: Published 2014: Industrial Gingerbread
- Second Sense: 2013 Postcards: Girls In Transition

Selected Juried Group Exhibitions 2012-2013

- (2014) NYU: Girls Transition (photography)
- (2014) Brynn Marr: Spell Of The Iris (collage, photography)
- (2014) Chicago Cultural Center: Girls Transition (photography)
- (2013) Sunny View Foundation Center: Girls Transition (photography)
- (2013) Marshall B. Ketchum University: Girls Transition (photography)
- (2013) NYC: NoSphere Gallery: Girls Transition (photography)

(2013) NYC: Wide Open 4: Girls Transition (photography)
 (2013) Chicago: Hilton Hotel: Girls Transition (photography)
 (2013) California: Richard Nixon Presidential Library: Spell of the Iris (photography)
 (2013) NYC: Alexis Grady Gallery: Women Inspired. Girls Transition (photography)
 (2013) NYC: HP Gallery: Abundance/Scarcity: Girls Transition (photography)
 (2013) Garrison Art Center: Overcoming Stereotypes: Archiving Communities
 (fabricated cow made of plastic)
 (2012) NYC: Boys Club: Excellence in STEM (Science Technology Engineering &
 (fabricated shapes made with plastic)
 (2012) Brooklyn: Powerhouse Arena: Abandonment: Girls Transition (photography)
 (2012) Kentucky: American Museum of Printing for the Blind: Works on paper/paint
 (2012) California: University of Southern California School of Optometry: Spell of the
 Iris (Photography)
 (2012) Chicago: Chicago College School of Optometry: Works on Paper /paint

Selected Press

- Queens Gazette “Koslowitz Celebrates Women’s History Month” April 4, 201
- El Diario, “Arte hecho e inspirado por mujeres” March 13th 2013
- New York Times, “Women Inspired”, March 13th 2013
- NYC PSA in major NYC markets such as ABC, NBC, FOX "Volunteering Your Blank Campaign",
- ABC Chicago TV, "Work by Blind and Visually Impaired Artists", 2012
- NYC Buses & Train Stations. "Making a difference Through Art", January 2011 - August 2011
- Queens Tribune, "Garden, Art Grow in Rego Park". May 10, 2010
- Queens Chronical, "Beautification & Sustainability are Key", Dec 23, 2009
- Queens Tribune, "Rego Park Greenies Make an Impact", Sept 3, 2009
- Black Enterprise, "Technology For Small Businesses", July 2006
- Inc Magazine, "Work From Home", July 2006
- Time Out New York, "Holiday Guide: Unique Gifts", December 2005

RPGA Studio (2009-Present)

Creative Director/ Owner

- Creator of Queens Art Intervention Day 2014, 2015
- Creator of CC3DP 2014 and 2015
- Creator of Pedestrian Penguin, a transportation safety card game to save lives and reduce transportation injuries.
- Collaborated with Mayor’s office, NYC Service, DOT, DOS, Parks Department, LIRR, public elementary/middle/high schools to use art/technology/sustainable practices to solve community problems. Collaborations have included large scale installations in public spaces and collaboration with many different teams/people to create public art pieces.
- Collaborations have also included collaborative murals involving between 5 to 800 people (typically schools or communities) and photography installation up to 4x6 feet mounted in public spaces
- Drought tolerant garden installations up to 4,000 feet in spaces abandoned and left to decay
- Creation of super hero stat girls to empower communities with stats that can save their lives.
- Creator of 3D design/printing workbook.
- Art curriculum development as a tool to increase community involvement
- Taught art/technology/Design in public schools and libraries in NYC
- Paper Dress installations to foster creativity and economic opportunity

- Photography installation in non profits including Girls Transition, series of 12 photos based on transitional moments from girlhood to womanhood defined by over 200 ladies in NYC.

Prior work

Prior to RPGA Studio I worked as a computer scientist/mathematician writing software algorithms for financial and other industries. Work history includes working for companies including AIG, Goldman Sachs, and Dow Jones Telerate as well as starting and growing my own business.

Degrees

Advanced degrees in Urban Studies, Mathematics