

Maria P. Tuttle

Mariaptuttle.com | [Children's Art Studio Richmond](#) | [LinkedIn Profile](#)
| 510.350.6906 | hello@studiorichmond.org

Professional Profile

I live and work in Richmond, CA where I am an educator, writer and artist of color. A graduate of the Art Academy of Cincinnati, I am proud of the solid foundation of technical training that I earned as an undergraduate and that continues to inform my identity as an artist and educator. In addition to my arts training, for 10 years I served as a full-time English faculty at [Los Medanos College](#) where I designed and spearheaded programming that included holistic, social-emotional learning that built resilience in marginalized communities. I am also the founder and lead artist of [Sketch Odyssey East Bay](#), a platform to offer outdoor sketching and painting workshops to communities in the East Bay. Most recently, I founded the [Children's Art Studio Richmond / Taller de Arte Para Niños Richmond](#), a bilingual arts-based program that provides high-quality art education to underserved children and families in Richmond, CA. I am well-versed in curriculum design, program design and leadership, and public communications, and have extensive experience creating sustainable and vibrant learning and career readiness programs. I am passionate about using my skills and knowledge to make a positive impact in the lives of others.

Relevant Work Experience

FOUNDER & DIRECTOR | CHILDREN'S ART STUDIO RICHMOND | MAY 2023 – PRESENT

Description: [Children's Art Studio Richmond / Taller de Arte Para Niños Richmond](#) aims to provide free high-quality art education to underserved children and families in Richmond, CA.

Evidence of Leadership:

- Secured \$36,500 in grant funding from respected organizations like the California Arts Council, Chamberlin Education Foundation, and Richmond Arts & Culture Commission
- Utilized existing partnerships to identify funding opportunities, secure endorsements for proposals, and engage potential donors, ultimately strengthening fundraising efforts

Impact:

- Increased access to arts education for underserved communities
- Enhanced children's development through creative expression and skill-building
- Strengthened family engagement and community connections
 - Approximately 100 children and families will be served in 2024.

Key Responsibilities:

- Oversee the overall operation of the organization, including securing program venue
- Develop and implement program curriculum in both English and Spanish
- Develop an online resource library for arts educators and caregivers to ensure continued learning for children and families

- Foster relationships with community-based organizations, including building an advisory board comprised of local artists and early childhood educators to inform and evaluate program’s impact
- Market the program in both English and Spanish, including maintaining website, developing marketing materials, and networking with local arts organizations
- Evaluate the program by collecting feedback from students and families to improve the program’s offerings

Children’s Art Studio Richmond: Sponsors & Community Partners

California Arts Council	Independent Arts & Media (fiscal sponsor)
Richmond Arts & Culture Commission	Richmond Museum of Culture & History
Chamberlin Education Foundation	West County First 5 Center
Richmond Rotary Club	Kiwanis Club of Richmond

FOUNDER & LEAD ARTIST | SKETCH ODYSSEY EAST BAY | JUNE 2020 – PRESENT

Description: [Sketch Odyssey East Bay](#) workshops invite participants to sketch and paint out-of-doors or ‘en plein air’ with locations curated to allow students to experience the uniqueness of local places and spaces. Workshops combine art instruction with opportunities to create community while encouraging students to begin an arts practice of their own.

- **Impact:** Serves an average of 10 community members per workshop

Accomplishments:

- Create and lead a series of outdoor sketching workshops for community members of all ages and skill levels
- Identify and curate workshop locations to showcase the unique beauty of the East Bay
- Combine art instruction with opportunities for community building and creativity
- Foster relationships with community and business partners to promote workshops, including reducing the cost of materials to increase access and affordability

Sketch Odyssey East Bay: Community & Local Business Partners

ARCH Art Supplies, San Francisco, CA	City of Orinda, Parks and Recreation, Orinda, CA
The Art Room, Lafayette, CA	Flax Art & Design, Oakland, CA
Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI), San Francisco, CA	

Relevant Knowledge, Skills & Abilities

GRANT WRITING

Organization: Delta Association of Realtors, CA

March 2023 – May 2023

- To support Association’s application to the California Association of Realtors’ Housing Affordability Fund (HAF), designed and drafted grant focused on increasing housing affordability for underserved and under-resourced, first-time home buyers in the California’s Delta Region.
 - **Applicable skills:** project management, technical writing, research, meeting facilitation, presentation design, marketing and communication strategy design

CURRICULUM DESIGN

Project: Restorative Justice Curriculum, Oakland Leaf Foundation *Feb 2019 – June 2019*

- Designed an integrated and comprehensive program curriculum based on Restorative Justice theory, frameworks and best practices
- Conducted stakeholder interviews and action-based research as well as co-designed key principles of the curriculum with on-the-ground practitioners
- Facilitated materials in an experiential training for program staff to engage with the curriculum and to inform implementation of future programming

PROGRAM DESIGN & LEADERSHIP

Program: Puente Program, Los Medanos College *July 2007 – July 2016*

- Created a sustainable and vibrant learning and career readiness program through the design of clear education and career pathways and with a focus on community engagement and family involvement
 - **Impact:** As proof of my leadership and through the continued growth of cross sector partnerships, approximately 100 students earned AA/AS degrees and achieved career readiness

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATION

- Story Shares, “Tommy Ann,” 2018, <https://www.amazon.com/Tommy-Ann-Maria-Tuttle/dp/1642615846>
- Sketch Odyssey East Bay, “Arts Blog,” 2020 – present, <https://www.mariaptuttle.com/blog>
 - **Applicable skills:** web design, writing, social media, and e-news

RELEVANT SOFTWARE AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, Google Suite, and various project management tools and platforms
- Experience working in web design, social media platforms, and video conferencing applications
- Abilities to quickly learn and apply any new software and / or technology that may be required

Professional Development

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE IEP AMBASSADOR PROGRAM | 2019 | INSTITUTE FOR ECONOMICS & PEACE

- Increased understanding of strategies to communicate initiatives centered on peace through a project-based application of Global and Positive Peace Indices
- Strengthened international network by connecting with global peacemakers with interests in building sustainable peace

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE PEACE STUDIES | 2016 | CHULALONGKORN UNIVERSITY, BANGKOK, THAILAND

- Awarded peace fellowship through [Rotary International](#) to attend a 3-month program consisting of interconnected trainings focused on conflict resolution, mediation practices, trauma management and transformative / restorative justice frameworks
- Post fellowship served as a thought partner for Women Peacemakers Cambodia where I designed gender equity, anti-violence and non-violent communication programming for educators in rural Cambodia

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

Artist-in-Residence, Chateau Orquevaux, Orquevaux, France

May 2023

Stonehouse Residency for Contemporary Arts, Miramonte, CA

July 2015

Additional Work Experience

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT | JOBS FOR THE FUTURE | JAN. 2018 – DEC. 2022

- Provided strategic analysis, design, facilitation, and project leadership for the Inclusive Regional Economic Development unit's work with the California Community Colleges' Chancellor's Office as well as the unit's broader postsecondary education portfolio and partnerships
- Managed consultation, writing and planning of project deliverables for partners and funders
- Organized and facilitated small and large group meetings, trainings and/or strategic planning sessions
- Designed and conducted primary and secondary research, field interviews, focus groups, and policy analysis
- Collaborated with project team members to design and test new hypotheses, theories of change, strategic plans, frameworks and visual models to illustrate complex systems and processes
- Developed work plans and managed project teams to provide guidance, direction and support for team members
- Interfaced with all areas affected by the project, including funders, partners and consultants

ENGLISH PROFESSOR & PUENTE PROGRAM LEAD | LOS MEDANOS COLLEGE | JULY 2007 – JULY 2016

- Designed and implemented academic and career pathways that included peer-to-peer support, student services and professional mentors
- Facilitated professional trainings to develop best practices to engage communities of color
- Advocated for stronger links between industry needs and education initiatives
- Developed academic courses that augmented social justice programming at the college level

ARTS-BASED COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES DEVELOPED & TAUGHT

- *Themes in Mesoamerican Culture Through Ceramics*
- *Introduction to Gender Studies*
- *Modernist Paris: Artists and Intellectuals (1890 – 1950)*

Awards & Recognition

QUICK GRANT | CENTER FOR CULTURAL INNOVATION | FEB. 2023 – SEPT. 2023

- Awarded grant to support professional development for artist's business, **Sketch Odyssey East Bay**
- Activities focus on developing administrative capacity, sharpening business skills, and strengthening the financial resilience of the grantee's practice and area of cultural production

PEACE FELLOWSHIP | ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION | JULY 2016

- Awarded Rotary International Peace Fellowship to attend a 3-month program at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand
- Established an understanding of strategies to communicate initiatives centered on peace through project-based application of positive peace frameworks
- Strengthened international network by connecting with global peacemakers with interest in building sustainable peace

Professional Affiliations & Community Service

RICHMOND ROTARY CLUB | JOINED FEBRUARY 2024 – PRESENT

- Dedicated to serving the Richmond community by participating in projects focused on community arts.

KIWANIS CLUB OF RICHMOND | AWAITING INDUCTION

- Looking forward to contributing to the club's mission of serving children and the community through various initiatives.

EL CERRITO ART ASSOCIATION | JANUARY 2023 – JULY 2023

- Served as a key member of the program committee to support the development of arts programming for Association members

Education

MFA | 2005 | UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, EL PASO

- Major: Creative Writing / Minor: Border Studies
- Related coursework: *Literature and Methodology in Borderlands History, Studies in Borderlands History, Seminar in Cultural, Linguistic and Political Borders*
- GPA: 3.93

MA | 2002 | UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, CINCINNATI, OH

- Major: Comparative Literature / Minor: Creative Writing
- Related coursework: *Pre-Columbian Art History II*
- GPA: 4.0

BFA | 1997 | ART ACADEMY OF CINCINNATI, CINCINNATI, OH

- Double Major: Fine Art & Art History
- GPA: 3.68