

ERICA FITZGERALD, MFA

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EDUCATION

Master of Fine Art, Studio - University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2025

Bachelor of Fine Art, Sculpture & Art History - Art Academy of Cincinnati, 2022

Associate of Art, Communications - Columbus State Community College, 2010

FINE ART EXPERIENCE

Teaching:

1/2026 - Present, Instructor - Baker-Hunt Art & Cultural Center, Covington, KY

Courses: Intro to Seagrass Basketry, Intro to Broom Making, Coiled Basketry, Intro to Foraged Cordage Making

11/2025 - Present, Instructor of Fiber Arts - Fitton Center for the Arts, Hamilton, OH

Courses: Intro to Basketry, Intro to Seagrass Forms, Intro to Broom Making, Creative Mending

8/2025 - Present, Instructor - Clifton Cultural Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

Courses: Intro to Basketry, Creative Broom Forms

8/2022 - 5/2025, Instructor of Record - Department of Fine Art, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL

Courses: Beginning Sculpture (Woodshop certification), Intermediate Sculpture, Ceramic Sculpture - Hand building, Sculpture for Non-Majors, Foundations - Art History

Selected Solo Exhibitions:

2026 - Idlewild, Idlewild Boutique, Cincinnati, OH

2025 - Mending As Monument, Fitton Center, Hamilton, OH

And She Carries This Too, Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL

2024 - From Under, Within Ourselves, McClure Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati, OH

Quietly Notice, 700 Bryden Gallery, Columbus, OH

Selected Group Exhibitions:

2026 - Soft Edges, Studio Kroner, Cincinnati, OH (Upcoming)

New Woman, Clifton Cultural Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

2025 - SOS Art Community Exhibition, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH

MFA Thesis Exhibition, Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL

2024 - Fiber In Progress, Icelandic Textile Center, Blönduós, Iceland

After (Work) Hours, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

Fantastic Fibers, Yeiser Art Center, Paducah, KY

Women In Art 2024, Las Laguna Art Gallery, Laguna Beach, CA

Half Donut, East Wall Gallery, Champaign, IL

2023 - Unreliable Bestiary: CETACEAN, Set Design Artist, Champaign, IL

RAGS, Link Gallery, Champaign, IL

From Fiber..., Springfield Art Center, Springfield, IL

Roe 2.0, Women Made Gallery, Chicago, IL

2022 - A Jellyfish & A Stop Sign, East Wall Gallery, Champaign, IL

Small Works Members Show, Women Made Gallery, Chicago, IL

In The Fray: Feminist Fiber from Margin to Center, Bolivar Art Gallery, Lexington, KY

This Time Tomorrow, Performance Festival, Site 1212, Cincinnati, OH

(A) Long Story Short, McClure Gallery, Cincinnati, OH

Summerfair Cincinnati: Emerging Artists, Clifton Cultural Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

2021 - 934 Gallery, Group Show, Columbus, OH

Wavepool Gallery, Pool Party Fundraiser, Cincinnati, OH
Perform-a-rama 2021, Pique Gallery, Covington, KY
31st Biennial Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition, Botanical Garden, Cincinnati, OH
A Fine Line, w/ Jesse Darling, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH
Minumentals 32, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
2020 - Members Show, Lexington Art League, Lexington, KY
HERSELF, Lexington Art League, Lexington, KY
USPS Art Project, Sunset Art Studios, Dallas, TX
A(rtistic)xI(nteresting)xP(owerful), Pearlman Gallery, Cincinnati, OH

Curatorial:

I Don't Know How to Love You (FotoFocus) - Pearlman Gallery, Cincinnati, OH, 2022
Unlikely Materials - Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, 2021

Residencies:

SOS ART Artist-In-Residency, Cincinnati, OH - July, August, September 2025
ÓS Textile Residency, Blönduós, Iceland - July 2024
The Burren College of Art, Ballyvaughan, Ireland - July, August 2023
Azule Artist Residency, Hot Springs, NC - May 2021
NES Artist Residency, Skagaströnd, Iceland - December 2020 (Awarded, could not attend)

Permanent Collections:

Sarah & Michelle Vance Waddel Collection, Cincinnati, OH
IHotel and Conference Center Collection, Champaign, IL

Artist Lectures, Presentations, Panels, Workshops:

Invited guest critic, Senoir Seminar, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Fall 2025
Mending As Monument, Mending Workshop, Fitton Center for Creative Arts, 2025
Material Making Chair, Textile Society of America Symposium, 2024
36th Annual GAFIS Symposium, Living the Land, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2023
Student Advisory Board Graduate Representative, University of Illinois, 2023/24
Zora Neale Hurston Conference, Bethune-Cookman University, 2023

Awards:

Greater Columbus Art's Counsel Individual Artist Grant, 2025
Dedalus Foundation MFA Fellowship Nominee, 2025
Art & Design Graduate Thesis Award, 2025
University of Illinois – Teachers Ranked in Excellence by their students:
▪ Spring 2025, Spring/Fall 2024, Spring/Fall 2023
Teaching Excellence Award by a Graduate Student, 2023/24
Art & Design Graduate Event Travel Award, 2023
Creative and Performing Arts Fellowship, 2022/2023
Wilder Traveling Art Award, 2022
Three Arts Scholarship Fund Award, Visual Arts, 2022
John E. and Mary Ann Butkovich-Tuition Scholarship Award, 2021
Folgers Memorial Trust-Purchase Award, 2021
Three Arts Scholarship Fund Award, Visual Arts, 2021
Faculty Alumni Award Scholarship, 2020/2021
Greater Columbus Art's Counsel Marketing Grant, 2019

Publications:

Ninth Letter Literary Magazine, University of Illinois Publishing, 2026

Suboart Magazine, Lisbon, Portugal, 2025
Containers For Memory, MFA Thesis Scholarly Publication, 2025
ÓS Textile Residency Magazine, Blönduóus, Iceland 2024
Beautiful Ohio - Dispatches from a Post-Roe America, 2023
We Were Cornfields, 2023
Thought Art Magazine 05, 2022
Emergency Index Volume 10, 2021
Artforum, 2021 (Wild Frictions the Politics & Poetics of Interruption)
Viral Fibers, 2020
Thought Art Magazine 02, 2020
Front Runner Magazine, 2020