



Nicola Ferrao

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To Whom It May Concern:

As a creative thinker with a gift for turning good work into excellence, I am forwarding my resume for consideration as a teacher at your school.

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Design Arts from Ontario College of Art and Design in May 2005, I set out to fulfill a life long goal of exploring worlds I had previously only ever encountered in books, films and daydreams. My travels took me across Europe, North Africa as well as East and South Asia. It was along this journey that I received a different, yet valuable, education; some lessons as simple as the delicate art of non-verbal communication to more complex lessons as observing deeply rooted cultural codes.

Marrying art, language and identity was my primary focus in my previous position with Edu Chosun and the Seongnam English Town. As a curriculum developer and teacher, I was involved with various stages of development and coordination of the school's art centred programs. From research and ideation to implementation; this involved evaluating unsuccessful programs, generating innovative programming concepts, researching and validating ideas, as well as working with a wide variety of client groups and stakeholders, from kindergarten students to elementary school teachers. Such exposure further strengthened my ability to withstand the pressure and challenges of a fast paced and ever changing environment.

With regard to my interpersonal skills, my experience with the positions that I have held – Teacher, Coordinator, Curriculum Developer, Organizer and Traveler – have all taught me how to work and communicate with people in a variety of different roles with guidance, compassion and sound judgment.

Please find my resume attached further illustrating my academic achievements as well as an account of my personal and professional development. I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you to further discuss my potential to contribute to your Education team. Please do not hesitate to contact me in that regard at the above address and phone number. Thank you in advance for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,

Nicola Ferrao



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Education

Ontario College of Art and Design

Bachelor of Design Arts

Faculty: Design

Major: Industrial Design

Work Experience

Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation

Event Program Coordinator

November 2007 - Present

- Work collaboratively in a team to explore and develop schemes that integrate the Foundations fundraising and marketing programs with new signature and third-party fundraising event initiatives
- Produce dynamic communication materials using a variety of media for fund solicitation and major sponsorship
- Facilitate event evaluation procedures and make recommendations for growth and improvement
- Work closely with the Web Manager, providing design direction to create, update and maintain event websites so as to preserve relationships with event participants, donors and sponsors
- Provide support for several Event committees and coordinate all communication materials for Chairs and volunteer committee members
- Created an engaging Volunteer Orientation and Recognition Program
- Recruit, manage and cultivate relationships with internal and external volunteers involved in special event initiatives
- Designed and developed an electronic archival system and catalogue to manage the Foundation's extensive event history, making research ventures near stress-free

Gyeonggi-do Provincial Elementary Teacher Training Conference

Teacher Trainer and Speaker

January 2007-February 2007

- Developed and conducted a seminar 'Art: Reading and Writing Using Images' offered as part of a continuing education lecture series for Elementary School teachers that addressed the use of art as a dynamic storytelling tool
- Researched and collected relevant cultural background information by conducting interviews with local museum and gallery educators
- Conducted an artist led workshop for elementary school teachers that successfully introduced new ESL art practices and connected them to contemporary Korean visual culture
- Developed and delivered a one-week work shop on 'Creative Lesson Planning' that enabled teachers to infuse creativity into government mandated curriculum
- Researched and formulated strategies and methodology for teaching creativity in an engaging manner
- Coordinated peer ideation sessions to test and validate theories

Seongnam English Town

Teacher and Curriculum Developer

March 2006 - April 2007

- Provided educational services to a variety of client groups from elementary to post secondary
- Managed students, time and educational priorities in a dynamic and constantly evolving environment
- Re invigorated the curriculum for Visual Arts, Photography and Animation classes, to better reflect the global spirit of the camp; which was met successfully by both teachers and students
- Enabled enhanced students to remain engaged beyond their one-week stay by contributing compelling interactive online content
- Researched and adapted an interactive intercultural exercise for the 'Global Guardians' summer camp involving 10 teachers and 60 students
- Composed and delivered all necessary educational collateral for teachers and students
- Coached teachers on how to effectively implement and maintain exercises in a creative and interesting manner
- Later adapted the "Global Guardians" project into an intensive weekend seminar aimed at first year university students traveling abroad

Gyeonggi Winter Camp

Teacher & Administrative Coordinator

January 2006

- As lead for the Art Club, worked together with teachers, program directors and support staff to develop, organize and facilitate daily Art club events and extra curricular activities
- Coordinated teachers and support staff, to ensure a consistent flow of events and activities
- Worked collaboratively and cooperatively with fellow teachers and program directors to create strategies for improving and adjusting unsuccessful lesson plans

Toca - Life, Death and Memory: The Documentation of Personal Mythology

Industrial Design Thesis

January 2003 – May 2004

- Researched and developed a meaningful concept through a series of intense interviews with variety of cultural and social groups; from people living with terminal illnesses to survivors of genocide and war
- Synthesized and presented thesis stages of progress through a series of written evaluation gates and critiques
- Worked with a thesis panel to maximize project opportunities
- Met deliverables and deadlines in a demanding and challenging climate with conflicting priorities
- Designed a compelling installation, short film and research document which was presented and defended to a panel composed of faculty and professionals
- Created an environment for collaborative peer support, development and guidance by hosting ideation sessions

Personal Development

VirginID OCAD Industrial Design Thesis Show Committee 2004

- Scheduled weekly meetings; recorded and communicated important information to peers and support staff
- Produced written and electronic promotional and publicity materials
- Coordinated venue bookings for both weekly meetings and the main event
- Worked collaboratively and cooperatively on thematic development
- Designed and produced display stands; adhered to both strict budget and material constraints

SymbioTech OCAD Industrial Design Year End Show Committee 2003

- Secured funding and solicited monetary and material sponsorship and donations
- Organized and choreographed task groups to transform a student work studio into an engaging creative space
- Designed and created a light installation using recycled plywood table legs

Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion 2008 June 2008

Exceeded personal fundraising goal by raising over \$2500 for Spinal Cord Injury Research

Reuse, Recycle, Remake – Annual OCAD Design Competition January 2003

Exhibition Design - Honourable Mention

Skills and Assets

Excellent oral and written communication skills

Fast learner, independent, dependable and hard worker

Superior research and problem solving skills

Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite

Proficient in Raisers Edge

Proficient in Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign

Interests

Enjoy traveling, painting, reading, writing short stories, photography, camping and canoeing.... using peanut butter to create new and exciting culinary treats!

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