

Amber D. Coppings
ambercoppings@gmail.com
www.ambercoppingsstudio.com
(412)720-8047

Education

2024- Present MFA Candidate, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
2001 Bachelor’s of Art, Carlow University, Pittsburgh, PA
2001 Art Therapy Certification, Carlow University, Pittsburgh, PA

Continuing Education

2023-2025 Plants and Colour, Historical Textile Art & Craft techniques and history
2023 Creative Aging Training, Teaching Artist & Arts Administration modules
2022 Arts in Health Certification, National Organization for Arts in Health
2019 Natural Dyeing Intensive, Textile Art Center, New York City
2010 Technical Fashion Patternmaking, Fashion Institute of Technology
2003 Aesthetic Education facilitation training, Lincoln Center and Gateway to the Arts

Teaching Experience

2025 University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Intro to Black and White Darkroom Photography
2022-2024 Honolulu Museum of Arts School, Fiber Arts Studio Programs Teacher
2020-2022 Center Stage, Milton S. Hershey Medical Center Penn State Health, Arts in Health Teaching Artist
2016-2022 POWER Artist Residency, Resident Artist
2014-2022 Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Arts in Education Program, Resident Artist
2002-2022 Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media, Community Arts Teaching Artist
2001-2021 Contemporary Craft, Community Arts Teaching Artist
2020 Arts Education Collaborative, Community Arts Teaching Artist
2017 Carnegie Museum of Art, Community Engagement and Teaching Artist
2006-2012 Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh, Fiber Arts & Textile Design Workshop Instructor
2006-2008 Penn Avenue Arts Initiative, Community Arts Teaching Artist
2003-2007 Gateway to the Arts, Resident Artist

Grants

2016- 2022 Long term Artist Residency Grants (yearly), Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
2021 IU1 Innovation Grant, Greene County, PA
2020 Teaching Artist Professional Development Grant, Creative Learning Network
2018 Textile Design Sponsorship, Spoonflower.com
2006 Penn Avenue Arts Initiative Teaching Artist Grant
2005 Artist Opportunity Grant, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council

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Exhibitions

- 2025-2026 **Two Person Exhibition**, *from the dirt and back to the breath*, First Hawaiian Center, Honolulu, HI
- 2025 *Inside: Incarcerated Voices of Hawai'i and Beyond*, Community Art Contributor, East Hawai'i Cultural Center
- 2024 *Shared Views*, OPAL, Oak Park, IL
- 2024 *Summer Showcase*, fishcake, Honolulu, HI
- 2024 *In, Of, and About Fiber*, Hawai'i Craftsmen Fiber Hawai'i Biennial, Downtown Art Center, Honolulu, HI
- 2023 *Artists of Hawai'i*, Downtown Art Center, Honolulu, HI
- 2023 & 2024 *The Calico Dress*, Community Art Contributor, Frick Art Museum, Pittsburgh, PA; Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA
- 2023 *Cohort E group show*, Angelica Kauffman Gallery, River Forest, IL
- 2023 *Micro Quilt Show*, Angelica Kauffman Gallery, River Forest, IL
- 2021 *Crafting Our Community*, Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2021 *Winter Arts*, Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2019 *Plant to Pigment*, Textile Art Center, NYC
- 2015 *Arts-in-Education Teaching Artist Arts Exhibition*, Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2009 *Echoes of Objects, Gestures 12*, art installation, The Mattress Factory museum, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2004 **Solo Exhibition**, *Touch*, art installation, Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media and Fiberart International, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2003 **Two Person Exhibition**, *Feel*, Garfield ArtWorks, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2003 *Sarrogit*, performance art instigations, various locations
- 2001 *Woven Paths*, art installation, Aliquippa Arts Festival, Aliquippa, PA

Collaborative Projects

- 2019-2020 *Allegheny Court of Common Pleas Family Division Community Installation & Interactive Art* in collaboration with participants in POWER Artist Residency Project, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2017-2020 *Recovery Encouragement*; POWER House, in collaboration with participants in POWER Artist Residency Project, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2016 *Brashear Winter Garden*, community art installation, in collaboration with Rose Clancy and students at Brashear High School, sponsored by Fiberart International Pittsburgh, PA
- 2012-2015 *GardenLAB*, on-site garden dye experimentation in collaboration with Rose Clancy, The Mattress Factory museum, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2007 *Memory Bundles*; art installation created while Artist-in-Residence at Children's Museum, Pittsburgh, PA

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Fashion, Craft & Design Shows

2018-21 *Surtex & Premier Vision*, NYC
2011 *INDIE CRAFT*, MAGIC; Las Vegas, NV
2009 *Emerging Artist*, American Craft Council Show, Baltimore, MD

Bibliography

“O‘ahu Color Palette”, *UPPERCASE Magazine*, 2024.
Featured Quilt Artist, *Art Quilting Studio Magazine*, 2022
Featured Surface Pattern Designer, *UPPERCASE magazine*, 2019
Featured Community Artist, *UPPERCASE magazine*, 2018
Featured Designer & Teaching Artist, Spoonflower blog takeover, 2018
“How art can change a life”, *NextPittsburgh*, 2018
“What Does an Art Degree Do?”, *Carlow University Magazine*, 2017
“Be Cool: Warm Up in the Winter Months in Wearable Art”, *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, 2014
“Art You Can Get Into”, The Mattress Factory Museum blog, 2012
“Let’s Talk About Mittens as Art”, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 2011
Artist Interview, *Spraygraphic.com*, 2009
“The latest in the Mattress Factory’s Gestures series is a thoughtful examination of our sense of place”, *Pittsburgh City Paper*, 2009
“Mattress Factory exhibit “*Gestures*” as varied as the issues it addresses”, *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, 2009

Presentations

2025 Art in/as Therapy, Hawai‘i Stitchery and Fiber Arts Guild
2019 Arts in Education Speaker, Arts & Culture Caucus, Pennsylvania State Legislature

Visiting Artist Lectures & Workshops

2024 “Botanical Dyeing and Paint Making”, Use, Reuse, Radical Reuse class, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
2018 “Natural Bundle Dyeing”, University of Pennsylvania, Greater Allegheny campus

Professional Service

2024-2025 Honolulu Community Gardens, Branding Committee & Logo Design
2018-2021 POWER Art Scholarships Coordinator (Founder & Organizer)
2004-2010 Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh (Volunteer), Board of Directors Treasurer, Docent Coordinator, Outreach Coordinator

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Technical Abilities

- 2025 Intro to Black and White Darkroom Photography Teacher, School of Art and Art History, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (operational and safety knowledge film development & darkroom chemistry, print enlargers, 35mm film cameras, hot and cold presses, and other photo equipment.)
- 2024- 2025 Wood Shop and Sculpture and Expanded Practices Lab and Safety Technician, School of Art and Art History, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (operational and safety knowledge of a variety of woodworking power tools, such as: table, radial-arm, mitre, scroll, and band saws; planers; drills; and sanders.)
- 2022-2024 Fiber Arts Studio Manager, Honolulu Museum of Art School, Honolulu, HI (Designed the fiber arts studio; worked within budget to purchase and maintain equipment; acted as Studio Technician; in conjunction with my position of Fiber Arts Studio Programs Teacher. Extensive knowledge of sewing machines and techniques, hand sewing and quilting processes, floor and hand looms, dye studio equipment, and natural and synthetic dyes safety and artistic usage.)

Consultancies

- 2023 Virtual Exhibition Consultant, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (Designed and coordinated a virtual exhibition to enhance the Arts in Recovery exhibition at the Pennsylvania State Capitol Building Rotunda.)
- 2016-2021 School Consultant/Arts Education Professional Development, Various school districts & arts organizations, Western Pennsylvania area (Led arts integration, STEAM, and project-based learning training for K-12 teachers and school Administrators, including Procreate training and other digital software).