

Lana Yu

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Artist

2004 to the present

Exploring the inner and outer world through paint, materials and experiences with others. Sharing the creative process through socially engaged art, public art projects and teaching. www.lanayu.net

Arts/Design Educator

1988 to the present

Facilitating self-expression in youths and adults in participatory art projects, public art, school, workshop, camp and private settings.

- Initiated seven literary and performing arts responses to the question “What Matters?” Workshops designed in partnership with community and cultural organizations invited diverse participants to use word, image, music, movement and drama to create shared public performances. These projects reached the general public and underserved throughout Peekskill, NY from June 2015 to 2017 Sponsored by the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art and partially supported by a grant from the National Endowment of the Arts. Creative partners include Embark Peekskill, New Era Creative Space and the Peekskill Senior Citizens Club.
- Dual Recovery Support Group Arts Program
Introduced abstract drawing and mixed media as a form of personal discovery and expression in a supportive group environment. Participants ranged from their 20s–60’s and are recovering from substance abuse while coming out of the criminal justice system.
June – July 2016
- Westchester Jewish Community Services
Created a seven-week art program for the chronically or mentally ill where we art becomes a tool for expression, healing and support for one another. Together we created a tapestry of a tree made with paper, recycled materials, magazine clippings, paint and words of what matters. It is on permanent display at the WJCS space in Peekskill to continue to inspire the patients
Oct. - Dec. 2015 and 2016
- Painting Peekskill Bay
Led the creation of two unique, collaborative paintings celebrating Peekskill, New York’s stunning waterfront and natural environment. The paintings hang in the Peekskill city manager’s office at City Hall and at the Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce celebrating the creativity of the community. This activity was held at the water’s edge for all ages and levels at the first Hudson Valley Exposition Event, Riverfront Green Park Aug. 1, 2015
- Teaching Artist Residencies, ArtsWestchester
Winter/Spring 2015

Hostos Microsociety School, Yonkers, NY
Led Seventy-nine 1st and 3rd grade students in a process to share what matters combining environmental awareness and self-expression to create individual and group works of art from 100% recycled and sustainable materials.

Saunders Trades and Technical School, Yonkers, NY
Worked with two hundred high school students, grades 9-12 to create hand-bound journals that explore their inner and outer world.

Saunders Trades and Technical School, Magnet Program, Yonkers, NY
Guided a team of twelve 10th graders to create a custom mural for their graphics classroom. Led them through a deep creative process from concept to execution.
- What Matters, Socially-engaged Art Project
2012 to the present
Brought together 11,000 people through 70+ live events/workshops/interactive exhibitions exploring the question “What Matters?”. People of all ages from various cultures and backgrounds connected to share their thoughts. Designed and coordinated the creation of a 28 x 10 feet mural with 88 people from the public, ages 4-80+ as an artifact of some of the most universal phrases written by a highly diverse population. The mural

is installed on the Park St. Garage in Peekskill, New York. With a grant from the NEA for 2015-2017, the project continued as multi-disciplinary workshops including discussion, memoir, drama, blues and letter-writing to reach multi-cultural participants including the “underserved” in personal and collective expressions of what matters.

- Kiley Center Arts Project
Fall of 2014
Brought What Matters to an after-school arts program for at-risk youth at the Kiley Center and Hillcrest Elementary School in Peekskill, NY
- New Era Creative Space
Spring/Summer 2014
Taught mask-making in a week-long Spring break camp. Combined character development and drama to engage 8-10 year old students in a multi-faceted arts program. Taught Plein-air painting with adults introducing watercolor techniques and the joy of painting in nature.
- Mask of the Self, Culture Club
Summer 2012
Engaged 35 kids ages 7-18 to explore their identity and unique spirit through the making of a personal mask. Culture Club is a free summer camp in Peekskill, New York, exploring diversity.
- Find Your Truth Mural, Peekskill Banner Project
August 2011
Led twenty youths, ages 4 to 16 in discussion, writing and art-making culminating in a collaborative group mural about personal truth.
- Saturday Art Classes, West LA Chinese School
1988 to 1992
Ages four up. Classes in drawing, painting and mixed media art.
- Private Art Teacher
1988 to 1992
Kids from the Chinese School Art Class enjoyed my art class enough to ask for private group and individual instruction. Ages four up. Drawing and Painting. I facilitated young children to reach a high level of competency in observation and drawing skills.
- Art Camp Counselor/Instructor, Bruin Kids, UCLA
Summer 1989
Four hours of art five days of week for kids 8 to 12. Included instruction in print-making, photography, architecture and mixed media art.

Graphic Designer, Art-director and Creative Director

1992 – 2014

Creating experiences online, in video and in print. Worked in various settings on staff and freelance for gaming and educational software companies, design studios, advertising agencies and in-house corporate media departments as well as directly with various brands, companies and organizations during 20+ year design career. Selected clients include ABC, Disney, CBS, Showtime, TBS, VH-1, TimeWarner, Simon and Schuster, Prentice Hall, Penguin, P&G, Sprint, Sony, Chase and IBM. www.lanayu.com

Selected Exhibitions

Solo Shows:

Light, Dark, In, Out

Flat iron Gallery, Peekskill, NY. June 5 – Jun 29, 2014. Opening reception: June 14

Ebb & Flow

Art Gallery at Bliss Hall, Bronx Community College, Bronx, NY. March 24 – April 24, 2014

Forces of Nature

Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, Peekskill, NY. May 20 – October 4, 2013

Hudson River Healthcare

Elsie Owens Health Center, Coram Long Island, NY. August – Dec. 2012

Natural Order

H-Art Gallery, Peekskill, NY. June – Sept. 2011

Group Shows:

The Spiritual Moment II

School of Intuitive Arts Gallery, Peekskill, NY. Oct. 24, 2015 – Jan 4, 2015

Peekskill Arts Alliance Art Show

Hat Factory, Peekskill, NY. Nov 30, 2013 – Dec 22, 2014

Music to My Eyes

Paramount Hudson Valley, Peekskill, NY. Nov 1, 2013 – Jan 14, 2014

Art Sanctuary

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Peekskill, NY. November 11 – Dec. 11, 2012

Art @Home

At Home Antiques and Gallery, Kingston, NY. Nov 20, 2010 – Jan 8, 2011

Wight Gallery

University of California, Los Angeles, 1989 – 1992

Public Art Projects

What Matters Interactive Events, Installations, Residencies and Workshops

Expressions of what matters from people of all walks of life since 2012 to the present. This is an ongoing participatory project in interdisciplinary art forms. A mural of some of the most universal and compelling phrases was installed in downtown Peekskill in October of 2014. See the best viewing spot at 1045 Park St. in front of the DMV building between Bank St. and South James St. in the downtown, Peekskill, NY

Selected locations include:

- Peekskill Youth Bureau, Summer 2012
- Hudson River Health Care, September 25, 2012
- Center of Peekskill at the Gazebo outdoors, September 29, 2012
- Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, September 30, 2012
- Peekskill Arts Alliance Pop-up Show, October 20–November 8, 2012
- Peekskill Project V Pop-up Show, December 8–9, 2012
- Part of Carla Rae Johnson's "Alternet" Project, traveling to libraries through out NY and NC Field Library, Peekskill, NY: November 23, 2013 – January 31, 2014
- Hudson Valley Gateway Chamber of Commerce, Open Studios Weekend, June 2, 2013
- Welcher Avenue, reaching out to Latino day laborers with Anabeli Gonzales, July 19, 2013
- Fred's Pantry, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, October 12, 2013
- Magic of Margaret Steele, What Matters fundraiser, 25 North Division Street, Oct. 19, 2013
- Los Andes Bakery at 1049 Main Street in Peekskill. An interactive experience where folks can share what matters is currently live inside the bakery. October 20, 2013 to May 2014
- The Art of Making Sushi with Yoshimi Arai, What Matters fundraiser, November 9, 2013
- New Era Creative Space, "girl empowerment club" with Ridvan Foxhall, November 20, 2013
- Peekskill Makes Me Merry, Holiday Market and Carnival with the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, December 7, 2013
- Lana Yu's Art Studio at 820 South St. #2 during the painting of the What Matters Mural. Dec. 2013 – March 2014
- Bean Runner Café interactive What Matters exhibit January 5 – February 23, 2014
- Art Gallery at Bliss Hall, Bronx Community College, Bronx, NY, March 24 – April 24
- Leave the Light On, Annual Caregivers Day of Pampering, Cortlandt Manor, NY Sept 20, 2014

- Kiley Center, serving underserved youth ages 7–13, Fall 2014-Summer 2015
- Hillcrest Elementary School, serving at-risk youth and English as a second language kids, 4th and 5th graders, Fall 2014
- Eugenio Maria de Hostos Microsociety School, combine recycling concepts and 3D sculpture with 1st and 3rd graders, Winter-Spring 2015
- Westchester Jewish Community Services, created a collaborative mixed media tapestry of a tree expressing what matters in pictures and words, Fall 2015
- Writing Circle, inviting seniors from their 50's to 90's to share what mattered through the various stages of their lives to the present, March – May 2016
- Embark Peekskill, Literary and Performing Arts: Maiden Mother Matriach, Pen Pal Mail Art, I am Here. I Belong. Sharing a woman's experiences through out her life, connecting youths over the globe and exploring the "immigrant" experience. 2016-2017
- New Era Creative Space, Family Theater Workshop, Connecting families to share what matters though play, the blues and short collaborative skits. 2017
- Woman Rising with Marcy B. Freedman, presented at the Croton Free Library and the Talking Arts Foundation; Exploring the pros and cons of aging from a woman's perspective. 2017

Tree of Life Sculpture, in honor of those affected by HIV/AIDS

Collaboration with Wilfredo Morel and the Peekskill Youth Bureau
Pugsley Park, Peekskill, New York. Dec 2011 – Jan 2012

Find your Truth Mural, Peekskill Banner Project

Park St. Parking Garage across from the C-Town La Placita Market
Peekskill, New York. Spring/Summer 2011

Education

B.A. in Design, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)

Coursework at Parsons, School of Visual Arts, the Center for Book Arts, American Film Institute

Honors/Awards

- National Endowment for the Art grant to continue the What Matters project as multidisciplinary expressions using pictures, words, drama, movement and music, 2015-2017
- ArtsWestchester Teaching Residencies, 2015 to the present
- ArtsWestchester Panel to adjudicate community, artist and educational grants, 2015 grants
- ArtsWestchester grant recipient for the What Matters Mural project, 2013
- New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship and Scholarship, NYFA Mark Bootcamp, 2012
- Interactive Advertising and Gaming Awards including Clio Award for Best Interactive Game.