Christina Catanese

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CAREER VISION: to inspire curiosity, empathy, and connection through creative encounters between people and nature, in service of a more vibrant, just, and sustainable planet.

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Master of Science in Applied Geosciences, Hydrogeology concentration; GPA: 4.0; May 2010

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies and Political Science, minor in English; GPA: 3.88/4.0; May 2008

CURRENT SUBJECT EXPERTISE & INTERESTS

- Environmental art
- Art and social change
- Geomorphology and riparian pathways
- Science communication
- Environmental education
- Arts administration and leadership
- Mosses and lichens
- Broad knowledge of environmental studies and science

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Annis Water Resources Institute, *Grand Valley State University, Education Specialist.*   *2021- present*
- Leads environmental education and outreach programs on aquatic science and freshwater ecology
- Oversees field trips for K-12 and college students onboard AWRI's research vessels
- Designs, organizes, and delivers teacher professional development workshops
- Collaborates with AWRI scientists on multidisciplinary projects

Dance Exchange, Partnering Artist.   *2018 - present*
- Co-lead artist on *Future Fields,* an exploration of climate change and agriculture in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Multi-year interdisciplinary performance investigation beginning Fall 2020, in partnership with scientists at W.K Kellogg Biological Research Station, Hastings, MI. Led online teaching residency, University of Idaho Dance Department, Fall 2020.
- Curatorial lead and performer in *Remembering Water's Way*, an animated nature walk at the Schuylkill Center, 2018.
- Collaborator on performances during Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens' Lotus and Lily Festival, National Park Service, 2018.

Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education, *Director of Environmental Art*, Philadelphia, PA   *February 2014-July 2020*
- Oversaw all aspects of a rich environmental arts program at a 340-acre nature center within the city limits. Leads creative projects that support the mission to inspire meaningful connections with nature.
- Curated, and implemented indoor and outdoor exhibitions which interpret current topics in environmental science & conservation. Lead the process from concept development and artist selection through planning and installation.
- Developed and managed programming in support of exhibitions, including opening receptions, workshops, and lectures.
- Managed LandLab, a residency where artists explore remediation of environmental issues on the Center's property in collaboration with scientists, staff, and other experts. Supported artists and facilitated projects on site.
- Collaborated with Communications staff on marketing and promoting exhibitions through various media.
- Led fundraising for the art program, including researching, writing, and managing grants.
- Served on senior staff team, the leadership team that guides the operations and policies of the organization.
- Coordinated integration of art across the organization, contributing to key efforts like Master & Strategic Plans.
- Hired and supervised Exhibition Coordinator staff member and environmental art department interns.

Alliance for Watershed Education of the Delaware River (AWE), *Senior Project Strategist*   *2017-present*
- From 2017-2020, served as lead of steering committee for *Lenapehoking~Watershed*, AWE's public art project. Network of 23 nature centers in the watershed along recreational trails, who are engaging two artists to build relationships between communities and local waterways. Guided project from concept through three years of planning and fundraising. Wrote and managed $650,000 grant from the William Penn Foundation, the lead funding of the project, until December 2020. Continuing to serve as project advisor as the project is implemented and evaluated in 2021.

Brown University Environmental Leadership Lab (BELL), *Instructor*, Providence, RI   *2002-2016, 2021*
- Worked and taught at 12 day summer outdoor residential pre-college program, offering experiential education and inquiry-based academic learning to empower students to enact social change related to the environment in their communities. Worked as part of staff team on curriculum development and coordinating logistics of the program.
- Developed and taught Art & Environmental Leadership online course for Summer@Brown 2021

Environmental Leadership Program, *Senior Fellow*   *2018*
  o Participated in 2018 cohort of the ELP's Delaware River Watershed Network. Attended three intensive retreats on including diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in conservation; and systems thinking and learning organizations.

United States Environmental Protection Agency, *Physical Scientist*, Philadelphia, PA   *July 2010- February 2014*
  o EPA's Mid Atlantic Region, Water Protection Division, Office of Program Support. Science communication emphasizing making key environmental information, messaging, and data understandable to the public and available to internal staff.
  o Served on Communications Team. Coordinated social media outreach. Designed and updated Water Protection websites.
  o Managed the EPA's Healthy Waters Blog, a public blog focusing on water issues in the Mid Atlantic Region.
  o Created GIS and geospatial projects, performing spatial analysis, and creating maps to inform decision-making.

ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE
  o **The Meandering and Managed Mississippi,** with Jessica Norriss. Co-created new map of historic and current channels of the Mississippi River. Developed for *Water: An Atlas,* Guerilla Cartography, 2017.
  o **Globalization: The Crucial Phase**, Brian Spooner, ed. Co-author to Chapter 15: *Academically Based Community Service Learning*, with Joseph S. Sun, John D. Keegan, Megan Dougherty. 2015.
  o **Masters Project Design**, May 2010. "Pennypack Creek Stream Assessment Survey: Sandyford Run Subwatershed." Worked with Philadelphia Water Department.
  o **Teaching Assistant**: Introduction to Environmental Analysis (Fall 2008), Introduction to Hydrology (Fall 2009), Green City, Clean Waters: Using water science, politics and outreach to create a more sustainable Philadelphia (Spring 2010).
  o **Penn Engineers Without Borders,** Water System Implementation Trip to Cameroon, 2008
  o **Senior Thesis**, May 2008. "The Role of Transboundary River Systems in Political Conflict and Cooperation."
  o National Science Foundation Research for Undergraduates program, Luquillo Long Term Ecological Research Station (LTER). Conducted hydrological research in the tropical rainforest of Puerto Rico, 10 weeks, Summer 2007.
  o "Water: Scarcity and Security in the Middle East." Published in *Sound Politicks:* The University of Pennsylvania's Journal for Undergraduate Political Science Research, Spring 2006.

SELECTED ART & ECOLOGY PROJECTS *(more available in website portfolio)*

Ecotone Consulting, founder   *2020 – present*
  o Provides creative services at the intersection of art and ecology, focused on nature centers and environmental organizations.

thINKingDANCE, contributing writer and editor for online dance writing publication   *2019 - present*

Field Notes on Remembering, Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia, PA   *Spring 2019*
  o Co-created animated nature walk experience with modern dance elements exploring the ginkgo tree, deep time, memory, fossils, and related themes. Performed on site at the largest ginkgo tree in North America.

Signal Fire, Mt. Hood National Forest, OR; Superstition Mountains, AZ   *August 2018, March 2019*
  o Participant in juried trip, *Writing in the Pulse*, focused on writing in response to cataclysmic change in the landscape; as well as juried alumni trip. Signal Fire provides opportunities for artists to engage with nature through facilitated wilderness treks.

Works on Water Artist Cohort, New York, NY   *August 2018, October 2019*
  o Participant in artist residency on Governors Island, for artists whose interest or practice involves a deep investment in working on, in, and with bodies of water as both site and material. Explored New York waterways and climate change.

Santa Fe Art Institute Residency, Santa Fe, NM   *March 2017*
  o Awarded month-long artist residency under theme of Water Rights to develop choreography, visual art works, and integrated curriculum planning around modern dance and southwest river system morphology.

SciArt Bridge Residency, virtual residency, SciArt Center   *Fall 2016*
  o Participant in cross-disciplinary residency program pairing artists and scientists. With remote sensing scientist David Lagomasino, developed choreography to music derived from geophysical data around the Susquehanna River.

OTHER SKILLS AND INTERESTS
Trained in use of ArcGIS and Adobe software; Highly proficient in Microsoft Office and Google Suite; Michigan Master Naturalist (2020); City of Philadelphia Registered Tree Tender (2008); Extremely strong writing, speaking, research, and planning abilities; Fast and curious learner; Creative thinker and maker; Proficient in Italian; Beginning Spanish and American Sign Language.