

# ALYSSA DENNIS

## ARTIST / HERBALIST

### PROFILE

I am an earth activist, urban land steward, herbal medicine educator, interdisciplinary artist, & clinical herbalist committed to peace, justice, & ecological kinship.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### 2016 - PRESENT

Eclipta Herbal

##### **Founder/Educator/Herbal Practitioner**

- Create & manage herbal education programing & collaborations with other healing arts practitioners
- Conduct individual as well as group holistic health consultations
- Developing & stewarding an herbal medicine sanctuary

#### 2015 - PRESENT

Freelance

##### **Concept Illustrator**

- Create illustrations for project proposals, editorial, & marketing campaigns with a focus on social justice & ecological design.
- Clients have included the National Aquarium, The National Children's Museum, Heliotrope Foundation, Price Waterhouse Coopers, Wallpaper\* & 16 illustrations for a book called *Nature-Based Solutions for Cities* by the Urban Systems Lab, The New School, NYC

#### 1999 - PRESENT

Alyssa Dennis Studios

##### **Interdisciplinary Artist**

- More than a dozen solo exhibits & over 4 dozen group exhibitions. My work has been published over 2 dozen times.
- Completed 9 residencies including Oxbow, Oak Spring Garden Foundation & the Music Box Village where I designed & built a life size musical house.
- Garnered nearly a dozen prestigious grants & awards

#### 2010 - 2018

Swoon Studios

##### **Studio Assistant & Collaborator**

- Large format linoleum block printing, painting, teamwork, creative problem solving & exhibit construction
- Collaborative work for Music Box Village & Heliotrope Foundation that included community work post environmental disasters in Haiti and New Orleans, LA.

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### EDUCATION

#### 1999 - 2003

**MARYLAND INSTITUTE COLLEGE OF ART**

- Bachelor of Fine Arts
- Antioch Collage study abroad, Mali, Africa

#### 2006

**SOLAR ENERGY INTERNATIONAL, CO**

- Straw bale building
- Adobe plasters & brick making

#### 2008 - 2011

**TULANE UNIVERSITY, LA**

- Masters of Fine Arts

#### 2016 - 2020

**MAYANTUYACU, CENTER FOR MEDICINAL PLANTS, PERU**

- Study of amazonian plant medicine

#### 2019

**CENTER OF BIOREGIONAL LIVING, NY**

- Permaculture design

#### 2017 - 2020

**ARBOR VITAE SCHOOL OF TRADITIONAL HERBALISM, NY**

- Study of traditional plant medicine

### SKILLS

- facilitating/hosting community gatherings
- earth skills
- plant speak
- teamwork
- herbal storyteller
- drawing/sculpture/fine artist
- straw bale construction

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## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Besides teaching for my own business, Eclipta Herbal, the following is a list of venues with which I have collaborated with to offer nature-based education opportunities.

### 2023 - Present

Collective Wonder School, Portugal

#### Faculty

- advanced herbal studies

### 2025 - Present

Arbor Vitae School of Traditional Herbalism, New York, USA

#### Holistic Herbal Clinic Mentor

- advanced herbal studies

### 2025 - Present

Enoch Pratt Library, MD, USA

#### Herbal Instructor

- series of medicine making workshops

### 2024

Peale Museum, MD, USA

#### Herbal Instructor

- Herbal Compass mini version - workshop for Reimagining Land Exhibition

### 2025 - Present

Wild Ginger Community Herbal Center, MD, USA

#### Herbal Educator

- Chesapeake Herb Gathering instructor

### 2022

Irvine Nature Center, MD, USA

#### Herbal Educator

- series of herbal foundation classes

### 2021

Walther Gardens, MD, USA

#### Herbal Educator

- Herbal Compass Series

### 2008 - 2011

Tulane University, LA, USA

#### Adjunct Faculty

- drawing foundations

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### 2023

BGE ENERGIZING SMALL BUSINESS GRANT

### 2023

BALTIMORE BASE NETWORK GRANT

### 2022

OAK SPRING FOUNDATION RESIDENCY GRANT

### 2020

BROOKLYN ARTS COUNCIL GRANT

### 2013, 2008, 2006, 2004

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL GRANT

### 2011

IMPULSE, MIAMI FINALIST (1 OF 3)

### 2011

JOAN MITCHELL FOUNDATION NOMINEE

## REFERENCES

### LIA PURPURA

American poet, writer and educator

- liapurpura1@gmail.com

### ANAND PANDIAN

Professor of Anthropology at Johns Hopkins University

- pandian@jhu.edu