

ALYSSA DENNIS

ARTIST/HERBALIST

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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 programming & 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.

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