

Cara Castaldi

cara.castaldi@gmail.com • [LinkedIn](#)

SKILLS & PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Collaborative arts educator with three years of experience teaching students in formal and informal learning environments. Known for friendly disposition that fosters connection with all clients, peers, and supervisors, and ability to communicate complex artistic concepts to a variety of audiences. Passionate about interdisciplinary learning and communal knowledge creation.

- Community building
- Teaching
- Interpersonal connection
- Research
- Communication
- Event programming

EDUCATION

University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS
Master of Arts in Museum Studies

May 2027

University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA
Bachelor of Music in Music Education with an Interdisciplinary Humanities Emphasis
Magna Cum Laude, Honors in Music

May 2025

EXPERIENCE

Youth & Family Public Programs Intern
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

June – July 2026

- Designed and coordinated gallery activations for multigenerational audiences.
- Collaborated with community partners and organizations to complement activations.
- Communicated across departments to ensure events aligned with the goals of the museum.
- Led close-looking exercises and gallery conversations for youth ages 5-13.
- Provided customer service, answered inquiries, and resolved issues in a fast-paced environment.

Graduate Assistant

Since August 2025

The Commons at the University of Kansas

- Coordinate and plan interdisciplinary events with various campus organizations, including the Spencer Museum of Art, Natural History Museum, and Graduate Studies.
- Collaborate with students and faculty across departments to build interdisciplinary knowledge networks.
- Contribute to department goals through collaboration and independent initiative.
- Engage with Lawrence communities to build engagement and trust with The Commons.
- Design effective materials for advertising.

Kindermusik Accredited Educator

Since September 2025

InJoy Music

- Teach music classes for children ages 0-7 and families following curriculum standards.
- Build community learning environments for students and families of all backgrounds and experience levels.

- Foster supportive and authentic relationships to create optimal conditions for learning.
- Support parents by providing information about child development related to music.
- Provide customer service, answer inquiries, and resolve issues in a fast-paced environment.

Music Together Teacher & Private Voice Instructor

December 2023 – May 2025

Tacoma Music Academy

- Taught music classes for children ages 0-5 and families following curriculum standards.
- Designed personalized curriculum for private voice students ages 6-14 to reach personal goals effectively.
- Built community learning environments for students and families of all backgrounds and experience levels.
- Fostered supportive and authentic relationships to create optimal conditions for learning.

Music Theory Tutor

August 2023 – May 2025

University of Puget Sound

- Supported student learning responsive to curriculum pacing and individual needs.
- Built supportive and non-judgmental relationships to optimize interpersonal learning environment.
- Utilized a variety of teaching strategies to connect with each student and break down concepts effectively.

PUBLICATIONS

Object labels and short essays on selected artworks in the collection of the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO, for publication on the museum website:

Dale Chihuly, *Palazzo di Loredana Balboni*, 1996 <https://www.kemperart.org/news/collections-highlight-week-16>

Harry Bertoia, *Two Column Sonambient Sculpture*, ca. 1968 <https://www.kemperart.org/news/collection-highlights-week-6>

Jim Dine, *Meadow Heart #1*, 1971 <https://www.kemperart.org/news/collection-highlights-week-9>

Nicholas Prior, *Untitled #26*, 2003 <https://www.kemperart.org/news/collections-highlight-week-12>

Willem de Kooning, *Untitled*, 1977 <https://www.kemperart.org/news/collection-spotlights-week-2>

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award, 2024, \$3,000.
- Puget Sound Summer Research Grant, University of Puget Sound, 2024, \$4,000.
- Dr. Bruce Rogers Adelphian Scholarship, University of Puget Sound, 2024, \$9,000.
- Recipient of the Kansas Seal of Biliteracy in Spanish, 2021.

PRESENTATIONS

- “Dale Chihuly, *Palazzo di Loredana Balboni*, 1996.” Presented at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, 2025.
- “*Japonisme* in 19th & 20th Century French Impressionist Art: Debussy, Van Gogh, and Mallarmé.” Presented at the University of Puget Sound Summer Research Symposium, 2024.