

# JULIA KESTER

Art Teacher

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631.885.5859

## ART EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

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### Substitute Teacher (Elementary)

March 2026 - Present

Commack Union Free School District

- Supporting teachers' plans and students' learning by upholding classroom routines, following through on lesson plans, and maintaining a respectful, focused atmosphere.
- Monitoring student behavior using structured reward systems while adapting flexibly to a variety of classroom roles and grade levels as needed.

### Elementary Art Leave Replacement (Grades K - 5)

Oct. 2025 - March 2026

North Ridge Primary School & Burr Intermediate School - Commack UFSD

- Designed and implemented original, developmentally appropriate art lessons for grade K-5; differentiated instruction to support a wide range of abilities while highlighting and nurturing students' individual creative strengths.
- Supported school-wide initiatives through the coordination and facilitation of art shows, hallway installations, and collaborative art projects, contributing to a vibrant visual culture within the school community.

### Set and Prop Designer for High School Production

Dec. 2025 - Feb. 2026

Commack High School's Masque and Wig

- Created the musical's scenic design through the mentorship and coordination of student artists. Collaborated with faculty to deliver a cohesive and visually exciting production.

### Art Specialist Assistant (Ages 4 - 12)

June 2026 - Aug. 2026

Saltaire Day Camp

- Collaborated with the head art program specialist to manage the studio space, design and lead art lessons/craft projects, and facilitate TAB-inspired open studio sessions.

## PRIOR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Installation Artist and Decorator

May 2022 - June 2024

Less Than Three Studios | Brooklyn, NY

- Utilized skills in painting, prop making, florals, interior decorating, and carpentry to create immersive installations in restaurants and markets across New York City.

### Freelance Artist for Film and Television

Sept. 2021 - Jan. 2024

Art and Props Department

- Worked on sets of film and television productions to create, source, and manage props and scenery. Props and scenery require skills in many medias including sculpting, painting, etc.

## EDUCATION

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### CUNY Brooklyn College | Master of Arts in Art Education

Jan. 2024 - May 2025

GPA: 4.0/4.0

### Pace University, NYC | Bachelor of Fine Arts in Production & Design

Sept. 2018 - May 2022

GPA: 3.9/4.0 (Summa cum laude)

## CERTIFICATION & SKILLS

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### NYS Teaching Certification in Visual Arts (K-12) #1915960251

Skills: Curriculum design, classroom management, culturally responsive teaching, cross-curricular integration, Google Workspace, Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, etc.), drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, mixed media, graphic design, collage, ZBrush, scenic design for theater, building installations, school theater prod.

## REFERENCES

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### Mark Stuckey - Commack UFSD

Director of Art and Music

mstuckey@commack.k12.ny.us

(631) 912-2070

### Melissa Blady - Commack UFSD

Principal at North Ridge Primary

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### Molly Davis

Camp Director

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