**Ryan Mark Pagett**

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**Education**

Master of Arts, Art History and Visual Culture (thesis track)

*summa cum laude*

Lindenwood University, St. Charles MO.

May 2023

*CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF JEFFREY GIBSON’S BECAUSE ONCE YOU ENTER MY HOUSE, IT BECOMES OUR HOUSE, A QUEER COUNTER-MONUMENT*

Bachelor of Science, Art Education

*summa cum laude*

Columbus State University, Columbus GA.

May 2020

**Experience**

Head Curator

Imperial Valley Desert Museum, Ocotillo, CA.

August 2023- Present

* Organized several exhibitions while working at IVDM: a contemporary indigenous art exhibition *Native Voices | Native Truths: A Contemporary Experience* (Spring of 2024), a historic exhibition celebrating the museum’s 50th year anniversary *Imperial Valley Desert Museum: Rocky Start to Firm Foundation* (Summer of 2024), a historic exhibition in partnership with a recently opened local hotel in El Centro *Imperial Valley | Imperial Sea | Imperial Home* (Fall of 2024), an art exhibition centered around Imperial Valley artists who received a Far South/Border North grant in Imperial Valley *Borderland Expressions: Narrative Change Through Arts in Imperial Valley* (Fall of 2024), and *Desert Fables: Illustrations from “The Neotenic Queen”* an art and writing exhibition centered around *The Neotenic Queen: Tales of Sex and Survival in the Sonoran Desert*, a book written and illustrated by Alejandro Canelos (Author) and Rachel Ivanyi (Illustrator) (Fall of 2025).
* With funding through a *Far South/Border North* grant, gifted by the City of San Diego, organized 4 local indigenous artists of the Southern/Northern Baja California area, to implement a mural that encompasses the front walls of the Imperial Valley Desert Museum. This mural showcases the history and culture of the Kumeyaay indigenous people, a tribe seen throughout Southern and Northern Baja California (February 2024- September 2024).
* Working within the museum's archival collections software, PastPerfect, accession items as needed, ensure compliance with the Museum's collections, environmental, and pest control policies. Items include archeological dig site records and photographs, site materials and artifacts, book collections, writing and research, letters of correspondences, financial records, and more.
* Assist with visiting K-12 Field Trips and free community events, such as Traditional Craft Days, Stargazing nights, Lowlander hikes, Curatorial Volunteer Days, and more.
* Provide community outreach through the production of public history documents and publications with the *Imperial Valley Press*, the museum’s newsletter *The Cactus Chronicle* and public speaking engagements.
* Engage with visitors at the front desk, help them make purchases within our giftshop using the Square system, etc.

Curatorial, Archival Assistant

Steffen Thomas Museum of Art, Buckhead, GA.

June 2022- July 2023

* Organize, curate, and install several exhibitions centered around the life and artwork of German American artist Steffen Thomas.
* Created exhibition catalogs and zines for museum exhibitions, both physical and digital.
* Working within the museum's archival collections software, PastPerfect, personally recorded and moved entries for the newly acquired Lowrance collection. This collection included 400 Steffen Thomas artworks, photographs, letters, newspaper clippings, etc.
* Handling art and other archival objects (letters, tools of the trade, etc.) within the museum's permanent collection of over 700 pieces and access to 6000+ other works through the Steffen Thomas Family Collection, STAR.
* Re-organized the museum’s website, organized school tours, studio activities, and other educational curriculum.

Exhibit Installation Assistant (temporary position)

UpCountry History Museum, Greenville, SC.

June 2022

* Helped with the installation of interactive children exhibit, *Dinosaurs: Land of Fire and Ice,* in a gallery space of approximately 1800 square ft. Prepared installation for viewing by: hand painting the gallery space with a mountain/volcano mural, installing multiple interactive environments, including a large-scale volcano with interior lights and sound, four interactive dinosaur models, the replacement and rearrangement of gallery track lights, installation of floor to ceiling exhibit banner, and installation of wall, door, and sidewalk decals.

Art Teacher for 4-8th graders

Anita White Carsons Middle School, Greensboro GA.

July 2021- May 2022

* Conducted several constructive and engaging art courses in a typical, in-person classroom for 60+ students per semester of various ages and abilities.
* Led and monitored lessons and students throughout the school day, teaching curriculums involving art demos on using specific mediums and techniques, art history lessons, artist-inspired assignments, and projects, one-on-one student discussions and critiques, class critiques, discussions on past and present art movements, art as a career, formulating sketchbook and portfolios, and more.
* Was an active member of the PBIS level I committee, which looked to improve and provide opportunities for student engagement, improved behavioral strategies, student reward programs, etc.

Art Teacher for 6-8th graders

Indian Creek Middle School, Covington GA.

July 2020- May 2021

* Conducted several constructive and engaging art courses amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.
* Taught in a hybrid classroom for 60+ students per semester of various ages and abilities, creating art projects that allowed students to use their own personal technology (Smart Phones, school given Chromebooks/tablets, etc.)
* Designed and conducted advanced 8th grade art courses, which guaranteed high school art credit.
* Led and monitored lessons and students throughout the school day, teaching curriculums involving art demos on using specific mediums and techniques, art history lessons, artist-inspired assignments, and projects, one-on-one student discussions and critiques, class critiques, discussions on past and present art movements, art as a career, formulating sketchbook and portfolios, and more.

Student Art Teacher for 9-12th graders

Hardaway High School, Columbus GA.

January 2020- April 2020

**Internships**

Department of Education

The Columbus Museum, Columbus GA.

August 2019- December 2019

Assistant and Curator/Archival Researcher

The Steffen Thomas Museum of Art, Buckhead GA.

May 2019- July 2019

Department of Education

The Columbus Museum, Columbus GA.

January 2019- May 2019

**Training and Certifications**

Professional Development Certificate (Rematriation | Repatriation)

Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums.

2025

California Collections Care Training Cohort

Balboa Art Conservation Center, San Diego CA.

Present - January 2026

* A large-scale initiative to bring collections care capacity building to institutions throughout the state of California via accessible virtual lectures and in-person, hands-on workshops. Made up of 15 applicants.

Sexual Harassment and Abusive Conduct Prevention Training, *California Department of Fair Employment and Housing*

October 2023

Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED Training

September 2023- September 2025

Gary Alderman (Classroom Management) Training

Northeast GA RESA

February 2022

**Grants, Awards and Honors**

Groundwork Grants I, California Cultural Heritage Disaster Preparedness Projects

Imperial Valley Desert Museum, Ocotillo, CA. 2025

* Total amount requested and received: $18,123.32
* With the funds received, we enhanced the emergency readiness and protection of our collections through the installation of fire-resistant steel doors for our storage collection area, door sweeps for all exterior doors in the museum facility to block dust and pests, flood barriers and absorbent socks for water mitigation, and updated environmental monitoring and alert systems for the museum gallery and storage spaces.
* We also consulted with Elizabeth Salmon, Preventive Conservator from Balboa Art Conservation Center, for expert guidance on how to preserve our collections from future seismic activity, a regular occurrence in southern California.

Caring for Indigenous Collections Institute Scholarship Award

Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums. 2025.

* Covers registration fees for the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, & Museums (ATALM) 2025 conference, October 7–9, 2025, in Cherokee, North Carolina.
* A preconference workshop from the Collections Care Institute Program.
* Four nights lodging at the Conference hotel.

Certificate of Congressional Recognition, CA. Congressional District 25, *Native Voices | Native Truths: A Contemporary Experience*.

Imperial Valley Desert Museum, Ocotillo, CA. March 2024.

Recipient of Steffen Thomas Museum of Art, Art Supply Kits for Students

Indian Creek Middle School, Covington, GA. October 2020.

* 60 supply kits designed for students to create Steffen Thomas artwork inspired reverse paintings using images of the artist’s work, tape, lamination sheets, and/or Sharpies and acrylic paint, glue, and colored paper.

Art Supply Kits for the Virtual Youth, DonorsChoose.org

Indian Creek Middle School, Covington, GA. September 2020.

* Fundraiser designed to raise $1,340 to purchase supplies for low-income household students who had to work virtually from home due to the COVID pandemic.
* The acquired funds purchased supplies for approximately 180 students from grades 6 to 8. Supplies included charcoal pencils, erasers, dry and oil pastel crayons, art plaster, plaster cloth, and more.

Presidents List- Fall/Spring Semester, Columbus State University. 2016-2019.

CSU Study Abroad Grant, Center of Global Engagement, Columbus State University, Columbus GA. (Study abroad to Italy). 2019.

**References Available Upon Request**