

Ryan-Ashley Anderson  
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## **Education**

**2024-** *Graduation expected 2026*

- MFA in Visual Studies (pending), Pacific Northwest College of Art; Portland, OR
- MA in Critical Theory (pending), Pacific Northwest College of Art; Portland, OR

**2023**

Certificate in wet felting, John C Campbell Folk School; Brasstown, NC

**2012**

BFA, Creative Writing, UNC-Asheville; Asheville, NC

**2008**

AA, Fine Art, Sandhills Community College; Pinehurst, NC

## **Recent Professional Experience**

**2012-Present**

Creative Director working with brands, ad agencies, festivals, musicians, artists, and economic development organizations including Madewell, Bonnaroo, Crypton Fabric, Tombras Group, and others

**2024**

T.A., Introduction to Sculpture with Sara Huston, PNCA, Portland, OR

**2020-21**

Program Development & On-Air Host, JTV; Knoxville, TN

**2019-2020**

Senior Sustainability Copywriter, Shelton Group; Knoxville, TN

**2017-2019**

Gallery Owner/Curator, Smart + Becker; Knoxville, TN

## Awards

**2024**

Merit scholarship, PNCA; Portland, OR

**2019**

Addy Award for Copywriting

**2010**

Carl Sandburg Poetry Award

## Publications

**2025**

- *Nobody's Daughter*, Creative Non-fiction; X-R-A-Y Magazine
- *How to Fall in Love When You're a Twice-Divorced Middle-Aged White Guy and a Queer, Sex Worker Artist and Neither of You Are Looking for Anything Serious*, a collaborative piece between myself and Kevin Maloney for *Icebreakers Lit*
- *Dear Caller*, Fiction, *Rejection Letters* [forthcoming]

**2015**

- *Bare the Load*, Book Review; *Indy Week*
- *Leaving Behind and Returning Home*, Interview with Michael Parker, author of *ALL I HAVE IN THIS WORLD*; *Carolina Quarterly*
- *Craft Fair for Shifting Consciousness*, Essay; *Ethos Review*
- *Pinterest Fantasies and the Homesteading Dream: Where Does the DIY Woman Belong Today?*, Essay; *Ethos Review*

**2014**

- *Dishonor Your Lips with Talk*, Poetry Book Review of Jasmine Bailey's *ALEXANDRIA*; *Carolina Quarterly*
- *Trust, Monotony, & Infidelity (with 50,000 Strangers)*, Interview with NYT *Modern Love* editor Dan Jones, author of *LOVE ILLUMINATED*; *Carolina Quarterly*

**2012**

*The Inaccuracy of Memory*, Poem; *Headwaters Magazine*

## **Exhibition Record**

### **2024**

- *Public/Private*, PNCA Open Studios Event; Portland, OR
- *Emergence*, Group Show at B10 Gallery at PNCA; Portland, OR

### **2020**

*Linked*, Solo Jewelry Exhibition, Arts & Culture Alliance; Knoxville, TN

### **2018**

Solo jewelry exhibition, RALA; Knoxville, TN

### **2017**

- *Primp*, partner exhibition with Brooke Heuts, Light Art + Design; Carrboro, NC
- *Handmade Holiday Tour*, Designer Tour with Jewel; Nationwide

## **Performance Record**

### **2024**

- Storytelling Event, The Tiniest Party; Portland, OR
- P\$O, One-Woman Show, PNCA Open Studios; Portland, OR
- Poetry Reading & Musical Performance, Banana Pitch; Portland, OR

## **Bibliography**

### **2019**

*Ryan-Ashley Anderson Spreading the Love with Smart + Becker*, Article, *Inside of Knoxville*, Knoxville, TN

### **2017**

*Artist of the Month*, Article, Greenhill Center for NC Art; Greensboro, NC

## **Lectures, Presentations Workshops**

### **2024**

- *Intuitive Embroidery*, Workshop Segment in *Luxury at Play* featuring Mallery Wilson, Hayashi Wilder, and myself, ASAP/15; NYC
- Introductory Knitting Workshop, PNCA; Portland, OR

### **2020**

*Data-Driven Social Media Workshop*, Arts & Culture Alliance, Knoxville, TN

## **2019**

- *Making for Mental Health*, Community workshop for Bonnaroo with TWLOHA; Manchester, TN
- *Crafting for Confidence*, Kids' workshop for Girls, Inc. through Madewell; Knoxville, TN

## **2018**

- *Instagram Strategy workshop for Artists*, Knoxville Entrepreneur Center; Knoxville, TN
- *How to Write a Winning Craft Fair Application*, Knoxville Entrepreneur Center; Knoxville, TN

## **2012-20**

Produced craft workshops throughout the southeast at a variety of galleries, institutions, and alternative spaces.

## **2009-2012**

Produced knitting workshop series, Black Mountain Yarn Shop; Black Mountain, NC

## **2008-2012**

Produced craft workshop series, Dry Goods Shop; Asheville, NC

## **2003-2008**

Knitting Pattern Instructor and Designer, Bella Filati Luxury Yarns; Southern Pines, NC

## **Misc. Professional Services + Consultancies**

### **2023**

- Accessibility Consultant, Prime Access Consulting
- Accessibility Manager, New Room Studios, *Lora Grasshopper Kitty Cat*; Portland, OR

### **2018-21**

Councilmember, Maker City Council (part of Knoxville's Economic Development Org.); Knoxville, TN

### **2013-14**

*Founding Board Member*, QFEST, Asheville's first queer film festival; Asheville, NC

## **Exhibitions Juried**

### **2018-2019**

Regional Arts Exhibition, Knoxville, TN

## 2018 Exhibitions Curated (short list)

Peppertrain, Smart + Becker, Knoxville, TN  
Tiny Home Gallery, Dogwood Arts Festival, Knoxville, TN  
Grace Engel, Smart + Becker, Knoxville, TN  
Kelly Sheppard Murray, Smart + Becker, Knoxville, TN  
Brooke Heuts, Smart + Becker, Knoxville, TN  
Anna Jensen-Kinney, Smart + Becker, Knoxville, TN  
Shea Goitia, Smart + Becker, Knoxville, TN

## References

Kelly Sheppard Murray, Artist, Art Professor, Wake Technical Community College, Knoxville, TN; Phone: 919-280-8652; Email: [ksm@kellysheppadmurray.com](mailto:ksm@kellysheppadmurray.com)

Steven Friedlander, Journalist, Journalism Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN; Phone: 865-254-4561; Email: [steven8232@aol.com](mailto:steven8232@aol.com)

Wendy Jo Carlton, Screenwriter and Film Director, Juicy Planet Films, Seattle, WA; Phone: 312-330-2600; Email: [juicyplanetfilms@gmail.com](mailto:juicyplanetfilms@gmail.com)

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*Ryan-Ashley Anderson is a conceptual artist, writer, and craft instructor from the rural South currently living in the Pacific Northwest who excavates her personal narrative to explore ideas of temporality, grief, and precarity. She utilizes video, photography, installation, and her positionality as a queer, female, neurodivergent, autoimmune sex worker is source material which directly impacts her concepts and methodologies.*

*Current ongoing art projects include Care, Ode to Objects, and a memoir project. Anderson is currently pursuing an MA in Critical Studies and MFA in Visual Studies at Pacific Northwest College of Art.*