Heather Ruszkowski

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EDUCATION

MAT in Teaching, Concentration in Art Education PK-12 **Expected 05/2027**
Southern Connecticut State University

BFA in Art, Concentration in Illustration/Animation **05/2024**
The University of Connecticut

Associate of Art, Psychology **05/2020**
Naugatuck Valley Community College

EXPERIENCE

Staff Support Specialist, Willington Public Schools, Willington, CT 08/2024-Present

- Follow lesson plans and manage classrooms when teacher is out.
- Act as a paraprofessional and follow child's IEPs.
- Flexible, able to adapt schedule to meet school's needs.
- Maintain children' s proper behavior within lunch rooms and during bus/parent pick up.

Substitute Art Teacher, Willington Public Schools, Willington, CT 04/2025-06/2025

- Created lesson plans, projects, and grading rubrics for grades 5th through 8th complying with Nation Art Standards.
- Adapted lessons to provide scaffolding for students who needed it.
- Managed classroom behaviors and upheld school policy amongst students.
- Introduced students to different art movements and contemporary artists.

Kitchen Specialist, Big Y, Tolland, CT 08/2019 - 08/2024

- Punctual and dependable.
- Answered phones and helped customers.
- Managed coworkers and delegate work.

Intern, Special Collections, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Hartford, CT 10/2022 - 01/2023

- Processed handwritten notes and recorded data in spreadsheets.
- Handled limited edition artist's books and helped preserve them.
- Wrote informative notes on finds for the next intern.

AWARDS

Fawcett Illustration Scholarship - The University of Connecticut, 2023
Community Show Scholarship Recipient - University of Hartford, Hartford, CT, 2019
CAS High School Visual Arts Recipient- Watertown High School, Watertown, CT, 2018

SKILLS

PMT Certified | Microsoft Suite | Adobe Creative Suite | Customer Service | Typing | Communication Skills | Collaboration | Illustrative Design