

Tommy John Ballard
Curriculum Vitae
2026

Contact

tommyjohnballard@gmail.com

(937) 474 - 7798

Website

<http://tommytextile.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/tommytextile/>

Education

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Masters of Fine Arts in Fiber & Material Studies with Thesis

Chicago, IL

2026

Art Academy of Cincinnati

Masters of Art in Art Education

Cincinnati, OH

2024

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Writing with Minors in Art History and Print Media

2024

Summa Cum Laude

Sinclair Community College

Technical Certificate for Ohio Real Estate Sales Associate

Dayton, OH

2017

California College of the Arts

Pre-College, Print & Textiles

Oakland, CA

2014

Honors and Grants

2025: SECAC, Gulnar Bosch Travel Award

2025: School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Graduate Development Award

2025: School of the Art Institute of Chicago Travel Scholarship, Textile & Artistic Practices in Peru

2024 - 2026: School of the Art Institute of Chicago, New Artists Society Scholarship

2024/25: University of Chicago, Arts, Science + Culture Graduate Collaboration Grant

2024: Art Academy of Cincinnati, Wilder Travel Scholarship

2024: Art Academy of Cincinnati, BFA Purchase Award

Residencies and Fellowships

2025/26: Art Institute of Chicago, SAIC Residential Research Fellowship

2024: Art Academy of Cincinnati, Letterpress Studio Fellowship

2023: Dayton Art Institute, Yeck Artist-in-Residence

2022: Peters Valley School of Craft, Making Your Mark Scholarship

2022: Penland School of Craft, Winter Residency Fellowship

Solo Exhibitions

2024: What's in a Name Patch?, Material Culture Collection, Newport, Kentucky
2024: Everything Must Go, McClure Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio
2024: Eternal Nature, PIQUE, Covington, Kentucky

Group Exhibitions

2026: Never Forget That I Lov'd You, SAIC Galleries, Chicago, Illinois
2026: The Shelf Show, SAWHORSE, Chicago, Illinois
2025: SECAC Juried Exhibition, SITE1212, Cincinnati, Ohio
2024: Pataphysics 4 Symmetry, The Plan, Chicago, Illinois
2024: What We Talk Over, SITE 1212, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio
2023: Eros, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio
2021: Ameliorate, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio
2020: Eco-Conscious Art-Making Workshop, Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, Ohio
2018: Print & Pattern, Essex Studios, Cincinnati, Ohio
2017: Ohio State Fair Fine Arts Exhibition, Cox Fine Arts Center, Columbus, Ohio
2015: Ohio Governors Awards, Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, Ohio

Curatorial

2024/25: Material Culture Collection, Newport, Kentucky
2023: Ohio: The Great River Project, SITE 1212, Cincinnati, Ohio
2022: Out & About, Pearlman Gallery, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio
2021: Untitled Moments as Art, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio

Publications & Poetry Readings

2025: Pulp Fictions, Joan Flasch Artists' Book Collection + Archives
2025: Oxeye Reader Cincinnati
2024: Poems While You Wait, Cincinnati Art Museum
2024: Poems While You Wait, Contemporary Art Center
2023: Poems While You Wait, Bogarts
2023: Winter Solstice Reading Series, Downbound Books, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2023: Placemakers, Urban Appalachian Community Coalition, Roebling Books, Dayton, Kentucky.
2023: Placemakers, Urban Appalachian Community Coalition, Carnegie Columbia Tusculum, Cincinnati, Ohio
2022: Domestic Water Reading Series, Conveyor Belt Books, Covington, Kentucky

Academic Conference Presentations

2025: Pay By The Pound, SECAC (formerly Southeastern College Art Conference)
2025: Elemental Structure of the American Junkyard, University of Chicago
2024: Lenore Davis the Closet Performer, Jonathan Riess Undergraduate Art History Colloquium, University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio.
2023: Student, Who?, Association of Independent Colleges of Art and Design Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2023: Self Publishing and Bookbinding for the K-12 Art Classroom, Kentucky Art Educator Association, Thomas More University, Crestview Hills, Kentucky.

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate

2026: Teaching Assistant, Micro/Macro Textiles: Artist Research, Isaac Facio, School of the Art Institute of Chicago
2025: Teaching Assistant, Advanced Woven Structure, Kira Dominguez-Hultgren, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
2025: Teaching Assistant, Creative Writing, Sherry Antonini, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
2025: Teaching Assistant, Fashion Construction, Kylee Alexander, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
2025: Teaching Assistant, Pulp Narratives: Papermaking, Fiber & Material Studies Department, Krista Franklin, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
2025: Teaching Assistant, Deep Fried: Dyeing to Weave, Fiber & Material Studies Department, Danielle Andress, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
2024: Teaching Assistant, Print into Sculpture: 3D Screens, Fiber & Material Studies Department, Amy Yoes, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
2024: Instructor of Record, Artist as Researcher, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Community Education

2023: Natural Indigo Dyeing, Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2023: Indigo Shibori Workshop & Tapestry Weaving Workshop, Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, Ohio.
2022: Out & About Letterpress, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2017/2018/2019: Textile Print & Pattern, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2017/2018: Eco-Printing & Natural Dyeing, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.
2016: Textile Yardage Printing & Eco-Printing Fabric, Weavers Guild of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Arts Outreach, K-12

2022/2023: World Art Day Magnet Exhibition, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Holmes Middle School, School for the Creative & Performing Arts, Fairview Clifton German Language School.
2022/2023/2024: Printmaking & Creative Writing, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Clark Montessori High School.
2022: Printmaking & Creative Writing, Art Academy of Cincinnati, School for the Creative & Performing Arts.

2020: Virtual Camp Art Academy, Art Academy of Cincinnati.
2020: Papermaking & Printmaking, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Eastern High School.
2019: Screenprinting, Art Academy of Cincinnati, St Teresa of Avila School.
2019: Weaving & Printmaking, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Holmes Middle School.
2019: Visual Poetry, Art Academy of Cincinnati, St. Bernard / Elmwood Place Middle School.
2018/2019: Short Stories & Bookbinding, Art Academy of Cincinnati. Brookville High School.
2018: Histories of Tapestry, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Campbell County High School.
2018: Dyeing & Embroidery, Art Academy of Cincinnati, Stivers School for the Arts.
2017: After School Art Workshops, The Carnegie, Glenn O Swing Elementary.

Academic Staff Positions

School of the Art Institute of Chicago

2024/2026: Collection Assistant, Textile Resource Center, John Flaxman Library
2024/2026: Social Media Specialist, Fiber & Material Studies Department

Art Academy of Cincinnati

2024 - 2026 : Director of Institutional Advancement and Community Engagement
2023 - 2024: Associate Director of the Office of Engagement
2021 - 2023: Associate Director of Community Education
2017 - 2021: Creative Interactions Coordinator

Alliance for Young Artists and Writers

2023 - 2024: Regional Coordinator for the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, Southern Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and Southeastern Indiana