Grace Preston

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Education

2023 MFA, Texas State University, Communication Design, San Marcos, TX
2013 BFA, Washington University in St. Louis, Communication Design, St. Louis, MO

Teaching Experience

2024–Present Lecturer, Communication Design, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
Courses taught include Introduction to Communication Design, Imaging I, Branding I, and Interactive Design I (both in-person and online sections).

2020–2023 Graduate Teaching Assistant (Instructor of Record), Communication Design, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX
Courses taught include Introduction to Communication Design, Imaging I, and Branding I.

2022–Present ESL Teacher, Casa Marianella, Austin, TX

Professional Experience

2020–Present Freelance Designer, Austin, TX
Selected clients include NadaMoo Ice Cream, Literati Kids, The Voter Participation Center, SHESPOKE Cosmetics, TicketCity, BEKIND, Washington County Disability Aging and Veteran Services, and The Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities.

2019–2020 Art Director + Designer, Literati, Austin, TX
Working directly under the Co-Founder and Creative Director, I led and contributed to a wide variety of design projects for the company. These included original illustrations, interactive design work, digital marketing campaigns, and installations for community events.

2016–2019 Digital Graphic Designer, Whole Foods Market, Austin, TX
In collaboration with the Amazon design team in Seattle, I created assets including website designs, email templates, and social media campaigns for the Whole Foods headquarters in Austin.
2015–2016 Graphic Designer, TicketCity, Austin, TX
2013–2015 Graphic Designer, Jellyvision Labs, Chicago, IL

Commissions and Published Work

2024 *New Mexico Artist Studio Tours: 2024 through 2025*, *Southwest Contemporary Magazine*, Santa Fe, NM. Full-page illustration.
2023 *Who We Are*, Translational Health Research Center, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX. Large-scale illustration.
2023 *The Faculty Fellows Program: Community Health and Resilience Research,* Translational Health Research Center, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX. Large-scale illustration.
2022 *Mapping Residents' Homes*, *People's Homes: Stories of Resilience and Aging with Portland's Longtime Residents.* Edited by Emily Fitzgerald and Molly Sherman. Newsprint publication.

Recognition

2024 2025 Design Writing Fellowship, Writing Space, Chicago, IL
2023 Outstanding Graduate Student Award, College of Fine Arts and Communication, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

Solo Exhibitions

2023 *The Center for Drawn Togetherness: An MFA Thesis Exhibition*, FLEX Gallery, San Marcos, TX
2023 *Solo Exhibition*, Epoch Coffee, Austin, TX
2021 *Solo Exhibition*, Cherrywood Coffeehouse, Austin, TX

Group Exhibitions

2024 *Paradiso,* Weil Gallery, Corpus Christi, TX
2022 *misregistered,* FLEX Gallery, San Marcos, TX
2019 *Design for Democracy: An Afterhours Poster Show juried by AIGA Austin,* The Vesper, Austin, TX

2018 *Music: An Afterhours Poster Show juried by AIGA Austin,* The Brew and Brew, Austin, TX

2017 *Home: An Afterhours Poster Show juried by AIGA Austin*, Canopy, Austin, TX

Art Book Fairs

2024 Exhibitor, Lone Star Zine Fest, Austin, TX

2023 Exhibitor, Lone Star Zine Fest, Austin, TX

Artist Talks and Panels

2024 Panelist, *Drawn Together: Exploring the Intersection of Image-Making and Community-Building,* Design Incubation Colloquium 11.1, Boston University, Boston, MA

2023 *Thesis Presentation*, MFA Residency, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

2020 Panelist, Fine Arts Career Mixer, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

Workshops

2023 *Drawing Concert*, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

Participants created a collaborative mural by drawing directly on the gallery walls with paint markers. New prompts were provided every day inside the exhibition, which all asked participants to work together in different ways to complete their drawings.

2023 *Money Making Workshop*, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

Participants worked together to create hand-drawn currency that was printed on a risograph printer. Workshop prompts walked participants through the process of designing a currency and encouraged them to get to know each other as they worked. Printed currency was accepted at a student-run illustration pop-up shop that ran concurrently with the workshop.

2022 *Stick Together*, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX

Student participants created a set of hand-drawn stickers that were each inspired by an open-ended question. Participants swapped partners between each question, designing stickers that illustrated their partners' responses. After printing the finished sticker set on a risograph printer, participants traded designs to create collaborative sticker books that featured a contribution from each student.