

Ryan-Ashley Anderson
hello@ryanashleyanderson.com

Education

- 2026** MFA, Visual Studies, PNCA; Portland, OR
MA, Critical Theory, PNCA
Graduation pending
- 2023** Certificate in Wet Felting, John C Campbell Folk School; Brasstown, NC
- 2012** BFA, Creative Writing, UNC at Asheville, Asheville, NC
- 2008** AA, Fine Art, Sandhills Community College, Pinehurst, NC

Recent Professional Experience

- 2024-** Co-Founder & Managing Editor, *Pool Party* (literary magazine and reading series)
- 2025** Teaching Assistant, Retellings (LA), w/ Sara Atwood, PNCA, Portland, OR
- 2024** Teaching Assistant, Intro. to Sculpture w/ Sara Huston, PNCA, Portland, OR
- 2023-24** Creative Director, Crypton Fabric & Crypton Mills, Remote
- 2012-** Creative Director, Smart + Becker
Strategic consulting services focused on sustainability and accessibility in the built environment and the arts. Client shortlist: Sony, the EPA, Women Rising, Juicy Planet Films, New Rooms Studios, Prime Access Consulting, Milliken Floors

Consulting projects of note:

- 2023** Prime Access Consulting, P.M., implementing accessibility affordances for museums and art exhibition spaces; remote
- 2022** New Room Studios, Accessibility manager for theater performance, *Lora Grasshopper Kitty Cat*; Portland, OR
Sony via Women Rising Films, Created accessibility-focused community outreach strategy for *Madame Web*; remote

Juicy Planet Films, Successfully managed crowdfunding campaign for their second feature film; remote

2020-21	Senior Copywriter, Shelton Group, Knoxville, TN
2019-22	Founder, Smart + Becker Gallery, Knoxville, TN
2015-17	Copywriter, Crobar Creative, Greensboro, NC
2010-12	Various short-term political contracts for targeted campaigns, including Field Organizer for the Human Rights Campaign, and Campaign Manager for a County Commission Candidate, Asheville, NC

Awards

2024	Merit scholarship, PNCA; Portland, OR
2019	Addy Award for Copywriting, Knoxville, TN
2010	Carl Sandburg Poetry Award, UNC-A, Asheville, NC

Publications

2025	“Runoff,” essay; <i>Farewell Transmission</i> “Nobody’s Daughter,” essay; X-R-A-Y “Drooling Puddle of Goo,” essay; <i>House of Vlad</i> “Dear Caller,” short story; <i>Rejection Letters</i> Conversation with Autumn Knight, artist interview; <i>Pool Party</i> Charlene Elsby’s <i>The Organization is Here to Support You</i> , book review; <i>Pool Party</i>
2015	“Bare the Load,” book review; <i>Indy Week</i> “Leaving Behind and Returning Home,” interview with Michael Parker, author of <i>All I have in this World</i> ; <i>Carolina Quarterly</i> “Craft Fair for Shifting Consciousness,” essay; <i>Ethos Review</i>

“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 *Alexandria* by Jasmine Bailey; *Carolina Quarterly*
- “Trust, Monotony, & Infidelity (with 50,000 Strangers), interview with NYT’s *Modern Love* editor, Dan Jones (author of *Love Illuminated*); *Carolina Quarterly*
- 2012** “The Inaccuracy of Memory,” poem, *Headwaters Magazine*

Exhibitions, Performances, Readings

- 2025** *(bowl) movement: 100 Hours for my mother*, solo performance, PNCA; Portland, OR
- “AWP’s Loudest Off-Site Mistake” reading, AWP via *Maudlin House*
- 2024** *Public/Private*, solo performance, PNCA; Portland, OR
- Emergence*, group show, B10 Gallery, PNCA; Portland, OR
- Storytelling event participant, The Tiniest Party; Portland, OR
- Reading and performance, Banan Pitch; 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/exhibitor on tour with Jewel; nationwide

Exhibitions Juried

- 2019** Juror, *Regional Arts Exhibition*, Dogwood Arts; Knoxville, TN
- 2018** Juror, *Regional Arts Exhibition*, Dogwood Arts; Knoxville, TN

Exhibitions Curated

2025-26 *Intimate Ecologies* (curation in-progress), Alberta Street Gallery; Portland, OR

2018 Smart + Becker Gallery Exhibition Short List

Peppertrain
Tiny Home Gallery, Dogwood Arts Festival; Knoxville, TN
Grace Engel, exhibition and workshop series
Kelly Sheppard Murray
Brooke Heuts
Anna Jensen-Kinney
Shea Goitia

Bibliography

2019 “Ryan-Ashley Anderson Spreading the Love with Smart + Becker, *Inside of Knoxville*; Knoxville, TN

2017 “Artist of the Month,” *Greenhill Center for NC Art*; Greensboro, NC

2014 “Technologically Mediated Artisanal Production” by Tamara Kneese, Alex Rosenblat, and danah boyd

2014 “Sell (It) Yourself: Marketing Pleasure in Digital DIY,” by Tara Janine Liss-Marino

Lectures, Presentations, Workshops

2025 “Learn How to Publish,” presentation and discussion, PNCA; Portland, OR
Ekphrastic Poetry Collaboration Workshop, PNCA
“Object Love,” a collaborative writing workshop, PNCA

2024 “Intuitive Embroidery,” segment in *Luxury at Play* workshop, ASAP/15; NYC
“Knitting 101,” workshop, PNCA

2020 “Data-Driven Social Media,” workshop, Arts & Culture Alliance; Knoxville, TN

- 2019** “Making for Mental Health,” workshop in partnership with TWLOHA, Bonnaroo; Manchester, TN
- “Crafting for Confidence,” kids’ workshop for *Girls, Inc.* in partnership with *Madewell*; Knoxville, TN
- 2018** “Instagram Strategy workshop for Artists,” Knoxville Entrepreneur Center; Knoxville, TN
- “How to Write a Winning Craft Fair Application,” workshop, Knoxville Entrepreneur Center
- 2012-20** Designed and produced craft-based maker workshops throughout the southeastern United States at a variety of galleries, institutions, and cooperative arts spaces
- 2009-12** Designed and produced knitting workshop series for Black Mountain Yarn Shop; Black Mountain, NC
- 2008-12** Designed and produced craft-based maker workshop series for the Dry Goods Shop, a cooperative art space; Asheville, NC
- 2003-08** In-house knitting pattern designer and skills instructor, Bella Filati Luxury Yarns; Southern Pines, NC

Organizations, Affiliations, Volunteer Work

- 2025** Board member, Refuge America; NYC
- 2022** Volunteer, Girls on the Run; Raleigh, NC
- 2018-21** Councilmember, Maker City Council (arm of Knoxville’s economic dev. org.); Knoxville, TN
- 2020-21** Volunteer, Big Brother Big Sister; Knoxville, TN
- 2015** Volunteer, Rape Crisis Center; Carrboro, NC
- 2013-14** Founding board member, QFEST, Asheville’s first queer film festival; Asheville, NC