

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

- 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
- 2024-** Co-Founder & Managing Editor, Pool Party Publishing
- 2025-** Board Secretary, Refuge America, NY, NY
- 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 (Marketing), Crypton Fabric & Crypton Mills, 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

Recent consulting projects of note:

- 2024** Nick Gamer, Album launch manager for *Oregoner*; Portland, OR
- 2023** Prime Access Consulting, P.M., implementing accessibility affordances for museums and art exhibition spaces; remote
- New Room Studios, Accessibility manager for theater performance, *Lora Grasshopper Kitty Cat*; Portland, OR

- 2022 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

Awards

- 2025 Professional development funding award, PNCA; Portland, OR
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; *Farewell Transmission*
“Nobody’s Daughter,” essay; X-R-A-Y
“Drooling Puddle of Goo,” essay; *House of Vlad*
“Dear Caller,” short story; *Rejection Letters*
Conversation with Autumn Knight, artist interview; *Pool Party*
Charlene Elsby’s *The Organization is Here to Support You*, book review; *Pool Party*
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 *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 (bowel) *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*, exhibition w/ 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 <i>Luxury at Play</i> 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 <i>Girls, Inc.</i> in partnership with Madewell; Knoxville, TN
2018	“Instagram Strategy workshp 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

2025-26	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