



Dan Smith

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M.F.A. - Experimental and Documentary Arts • Duke University • Durham, N.C. / 2016

B.A. - Political Science • The George Washington University • Washington, D.C. / 2001

experience

2019 – present / Cary Academy

Cary, N.C.

January 2019 – present / **Digital Content Producer and Social Media Manager**

- Implemented a holistic storytelling-based communications strategy across social media, print, video, and web to improve community cohesion, boosting stakeholder response rate by more than 25 percent,

Social Media Management

- Revitalized Cary Academy's social media presence, outperforming peer institutions' social media engagement by 50 percent despite a smaller core audience,
- Devised and produced an online awareness campaign to increase outreach to BIPOC applicant families, while supporting a completely digital pivot for parents and students alike, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic;

Digital Content Production

- Managed editorial decisions over all aspects of storytelling, in concert with the Head of School and Communications Director, utilizing a \$30,000 content production budget,
- Increased participation in in-house digital content sharing and delivery platforms by 25%, year-over-year,
- Curated archival materials and crafted new visual content to serve as the cornerstone for Cary Academy's new website, delivered in April 2020,
- Crafted long- and short-form written content on a wide variety of topics for Cary Academy's redesigned storytelling-centric website, social media, traditional media, and printed periodicals, including a quarterly magazine and annual report to reinforce key mission related narratives with an emphasis,
- Worked with key personnel across divisions and keystone members of the community to identify heretofore obscure programs and achievements to script, storyboard, photograph, film, edit, and distribute content, resulting in a 30 percent increase in cross-departmental collaborations through increased visibility.

2016 – 2018 / Kenan Institute for Ethics at Duke University

Durham, N.C.

July 2016 – August 2018 / **Student Programs Manager**

- Oversaw a portfolio of more than \$100,000 in program budgets, while developing timely, research-based ad-hoc co-curricular programs, such as community-engaged discussions with local and national figures on how public monuments shape our communities and engagements between students and visiting practitioners across dozens of fields. Responsibilities included:

Director, Team Kenan

- Crafted innovative, fun methods to quickly and effectively communicate key concepts in ethics to diverse undergraduate student body, drawing upon original research, frequently using art as a social practice, while using current events and news-leading topics as keystones for engagement,
- Recruited and directed a team of 20-25 undergraduate staffer from across the curriculum, from scratch,
- Oversaw teams dedicated to weekly production of blogs, interview questions, survey data, podcasts and infographics, as well as social media strategy, while developing methods of measuring impact,
- Guided graphic designer team and managed publication of a semi-annual student-produced magazine;

Director, Project Change

- Led Duke's smallest and only institutionally-backed signature pre-orientation program,
- Established and maintained key relationships with community partner non-profits, civic and cultural leaders,
- Programmed a week-long intensive experience for 21 incoming students, selected from more than 220 applicants, to foster a deep connection with Durham through service and intellectual and personal challenge;

continues

Director, Alternative Breaks Program

- Cultivated partners and designed programs to engage undergraduate students in hands-on research during Duke's Fall and Spring Breaks in a topical, timely and nuanced fashion. Programs included: Cuba to investigate a pivotal moment of change; Coastal NC to experience the intersection of development, culture and environmental concerns through the lens of the seafood industry; and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas to explore multiple viewpoints regarding the U.S.-Mexico border, community development and culture;

Curator, 'What is Good Art?'

- Directed and curated annual campus-wide arts competition and juried exhibition asking what role art plays in our lives, how it affects our worldview and who is allowed/encouraged to make art;

Director, Kenan Graduate Arts Fellow

- Selected and guided a rising second year grad student to plan, produce and exhibit a visual media project, and associated academic events, utilizing pedagogical tools for artistic inquiry;

Director, Keohane-Kenan Gallery

- Curated 3-4 gallery exhibitions per year, featuring professional artists and student work.

2014 – 2016 / MFA in Experimental and Documentary Arts

Durham, N.C.

September 2015 – October 2016 / **Workshop Instructor, Duke University Arts Annex**

- Encouraged students and staff to make art using basic technical concepts (aperture/depth of field, shutter speed/manipulating time, composition) for students with cameras ranging from iPhones to DSLRs,

January 2015 – January 2016 / **Project Manager / Teaching Assistant, Art of the MOOC**

- Designed lesson plans with Pedro Lasch, for a Coursera class of more than 4,000 students from around the globe, to learn about the role of art in effecting social change and provide skills to engage their communities,
- Managed relationships between Creative Time, Duke Learning Innovation (CIT), MPS and other partners;

February – August 2015 / **Project Manager, Creative Time Summit, Venice Biennale**

- Provided organizational and logistical support for an installation concerning national identity in the global age,
- Documented installation and performances; supervised supporting photographers and videographers;

January – May 2015 / **Teaching Assistant, Visual Studies Senior Capstone**

- Oversaw student exhibition, including logistical support and project management,
- Taught class sessions on various technical and conceptual topics including Adobe Creative Suite.

2007 – 2014 / Duke University Center for International Studies

Durham, N.C.

June 2007 - August 2014 / **Assistant Director, Programs and Outreach**

Communications

- Launched the center's social networking presence as part of a re-imagined campus/community/national/global communications strategy,
- Effected a top-to-bottom redesign of visual identity and logo,
- Designed, coded and re-organized a wholly-new website, built from the ground-up in less than 30 calendar days (and subsequently featured by WordPress as an exemplary use of the platform);

Interdisciplinary and Artistic programs

- Established a three-year pilot fellowship with the Magnum Foundation Emergency Fund to bring emerging international documentary photographers to Duke and Durham, for exhibition, community outreach and short-term academic residency, with an emphasis on using art to engage curricula across campus,
- Coordinated the interdisciplinary University Seminar on Globalization, Governance and Development (formerly: Global Governance and Democracy), the annual John F. Richards Lecture on Comparative World History and the University Seminar on Globalization & the Artist,
- Served as liaison to three U.S. Department of State Diplomats in Residence,
- Oversaw development of an augmented reality international pandemic simulation for STEM-focused middle- and high-school students;

Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) - Quadrennial Grant

- Planned, assembled and coordinated a workshop to bring together administrators of the top 20 U.S. International Studies programs, within 45 days of starting the position,
- Prepared key portions of the semi-annual NRC grant reports for the U.S. Department of Education,
- Coordinated the data collection and presentation of the center's successful 2010-2014 Title VI NRC grant proposal (\$1,400,000 over four years), while liaising with representatives of the Department of Education;

Students and curriculum

- Advised 24 Trinity College students, per year, from matriculation until declaration of majors, in order to establish a connection for the Center, which did not offer a degree, certificate or classes;
- Co-developed workshops and institutes for K-12, community college and higher education faculty.

1998 – 2006 / The Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs

Washington, D.C.

June 2001 - June 2006 / Manager, Research & Communications

- Recruited, hired and managed all researcher and graphic designer team, with a focus on their education,
- Cultivated working relationships with federal, state and local leaders, foreign diplomatic officials, and U.S. and allied military leadership to find common-ground solutions to emerging issues,
- Worked closely with the Advisory and Executive Boards to develop new study programs and publications,
- Initiated, secured funding for, coordinated and led study programs to U.S. military installations and foreign facilities, including meetings with high-level defense industry leadership and U.S. and foreign government officials, in coordination with the Advisory Board,
- Key role in the management of the institute's public image, marketing, publications and communications;
- Oversight of key IT, website and technology decisions, including a ground-up redesign of the website,
- Led and conducted time-critical research studies on a wide variety of topical issues,
- Authored analysis for publication and presentations to senior U.S. and allied civilian and military officials.

February 1998 – May 2001 / Chief Graphic Designer & Research Associate

- Managed the founding, design and production of the semi-annual *Journal of International Security Affairs*,
- Oversaw design and layout, co-edited and managed the production of six books, *Security Affairs* newsletter
- Directed critical IT and website activities, including key technology decisions, managed internal IT staff
- Led recruitment, evaluation and hiring of paid research staffers and graphic design interns,
- Coordinated funding, preparations for and on-the-ground management of key study programs, including visits to various U.S. defense installations, high-profile foreign events and government agencies,
- Performed time-critical research and analysis of world events, and U.S. policies, domestic and abroad.

Sports Endeavors, Incorporated

Hillsborough, NC

March – August 1997 / Assistant Photographer

- Posed, lit and photographed retail products for *Eurosport*, *Great Atlantic Lacrosse* and *Acme Soccer* catalogs,
- Digitized, retouched and crafted product images for print and website,
- Worked with graphic design team to craft full-page advertisements and co-edited monthly cover photo selections for all publications.

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publications

Smith, Daniel V. "A Mess of Feesh." *Bit & Grain*. April 20, 2016.
Smith, Daniel V. "Fundamentals." *Clear Nude*. 2014; 1(III): 68–70.
Smith, Daniel V. "On Process." *Clear Nude*. 2014; 1(I): 18-26.
Smith, Daniel V., "'A lonely impulse of delight:' Frustrations of Modern Military Life." *Journal of International Security Affairs*. (2002) 3(1), 111–114.

solo
exhibitions /
installations

'Representing the Void,' Duke Chapel, Durham, NC / November 15, 2017
'A Mess of Feesh: Food Family and Fishing on Harkers Island,' Core Sound Waterfowl and Coastal Heritage Museum, Harkers Island, NC / April 3–August 12, 2017
'A Mess of Feesh,' The Carrack Modern Art, Durham, NC / March 22–April 2, 2016
'Bare: Conversations on Human Art – Photographs and Oral Histories on the Nude by Dan Smith,' Carrack Modern Art / August 12–23, 2014

group
exhibitions /
installations

'There's Content,' Rubenstein Photography Gallery, Duke University, Durham, NC / March 3–June 20, 2017
'Documentary Arts and the Photographic Tradition: A View from Duke University' China Photography Festival, Beijing, China / November 4 & 5, 2016
'Beyond: Cameras,' Horace Williams House, Chapel Hill, NC / October 2–26, 2015
'phone home Durham,' Power Plant Gallery, Durham, NC / July 2015
'evolutions | digressions,' Power Plant Gallery, Durham, NC / May 7–15, 2015
'Justify Sinners,' Carr Screening Room, Duke University, Durham, NC / April 19, 2015
'Eros / Thanatos,' Durham Fruit Company, Durham, NC / February 13, 2015
'small caliber wounds,' Smith Warehouse, Duke University / December 8, 2014
Summer Community Exhibition, Carrack Modern Art / June 2013
Spring Community Exhibition, Carrack Modern Art / March 2013
Winter Community Exhibition, Carrack Modern Art / December 2012
Community Auction Gallery featuring Dan Arielly, Carrack Modern Art / October 2012

invited
lectures /
panels

"Food, Family and Fishing: 10,000 years on the Core Sound," Southern Foodways Alliance. Oxford, MS / September 20–22, 2016
'Theory of Pedagogy,' Creative Time Summit. Brooklyn, NY / November 14–15, 2015
'Hidden Stories of Abandoned Places,' NC Museum of History / September 4, 2015
'The Photoshoot as Performance Art,' Carrack Modern Art / August 18, 2014

collections

Archive of Documentary Arts, Rubenstein Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Duke University
Core Sound Waterfowl and Coastal Heritage Museum, Harkers Island, NC
Works held in private collections, Durham, NC, Raleigh, NC, Charlotte, NC, Harkers Island, NC
Detroit, MI, Houston, TX and Montreal, QC

curatorial
experience

'Workers Dreaming' by elin o'Hara slavick, Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / July–December 2018
'What is Good Art?,' Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / April–August 2018
'Yarders: Performative Violence' by Rachel Jessen, Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / January–April 2018
'Greetings from Sunny Cuba,' Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / October–December 2017
'Make Your Mark,' Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / March–April 2017
'Dear Companion' by Colleen Pesci, Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / January–March 2017
'Nests of the Nu-Ahong' by Salima al-Ismaïli Keohane-Kenan Gallery, Durham, NC / September–December 2016
'Walking in Quicksand: Afghans in Greece' by Zalmai, John Hope Franklin Center Gallery, Durham, NC / August–September 2012

research
interests

Art as a communal experience and social practice to spark innovation
Vernacular memorials to trauma in rural communities
The evolving role of food as a cultural industry in North Carolina and its role in empowering marginalized communities
Technological shifts in visual culture, including the use of retinal implants to augment/restore sight
Gender roles in ethical decision-making

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visual media
/ technology
expertise

Digital & chemical photography (35mm, 120mm, alternative processes, infrared and darkroom)
[Graphic design and publishing \(InDesign, Acrobat\)](#)
 Digital imagery and illustration (Photoshop, Illustrator, Lightroom, Apple Aperture, Nik Suite)
[Cinematography \(16mm, Digital HD & 4K\)](#)
 Non-linear video editing (Final Cut Pro 7/X, Apple Motion, Premiere Pro, DaVinci Resolve)
[Studio lighting for still and motion pictures](#)

emerging /
interactive
technology
skills

Apache, BIND, CSS, HTML, SQL, PHP and WordPress
[3-D modeling with SketchUp, FreeCAD, TinkerCAD](#)
 3-D printing with Cura, MeshLab
[UX design and prototyping with Sketch and InVision](#)
 Data visualization with Processing, Google Analytics
[RaspberryPi computing and Arduino embedded sensor and processing platform](#)
 Circuit bending and glitch art
[Digital audio recording and editing with Audacity, Apple Logic, Adobe Audition, PluralEyes 3](#)
 Course design and administration via Coursera online learning platform
[Fluency with Adobe Creative Suite, Microsoft Office, Mac OS X \(former Apple Developer\)](#)
 Functional use of Apple Keynote, Postfix, Windows 7-10, BSD and Linux
[Limited use of AJAX, JavaScript, MajorDomo, PERL, SpamAssassin](#)
 Search engine optimization strategies

social media
management

Cross-platform social media management using Hootsuite, Facebook Business Suite
[Organic message awareness growth through innovative use of Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Vimeo, YouTube and Snapchat](#)
 Digital outreach campaigns via MailChimp and Constant Contact

languages

French (seven years; good)
 Spanish (one year; beginner)

associations

Society for Photographic Education
[U.S. Naval Institute](#)
 George Washington University International Affairs Society alum
[Licensed closed-circuit road racing with the National Automotive Sports Association \(NASA\)](#)
 Durham For All volunteer
[Carolina Federation volunteer](#)

select media
appearances

Profile by Sarah Borst, *Aint-Bad*, June 23, 2016
<https://www.aint-bad.com/article/2016/06/23/dan-smith/>

[Review of *A Mess of Feesh* by Cliff Belamy, *The Herald-Sun*, March 25, 2016](#)
http://www.heraldsun.com/lifestyles/pounding-stakes-exhibit-looks-at-coastal-fishing-traditions/article_e29bca82-f138-11e5-bd90-bf67f90c1870.html

Article about *Hidden Stories of Abandoned Places* by Lou Brown, Forum for Scholars and Publics, September 23, 2015
<https://fsp.trinity.duke.edu/blog/how-do-we-make-sense-place>

[Audio interview with Frank Stasio, *The State of Things*, North Carolina Public Radio, August 20, 2014](#)
<http://wunc.org/post/naked-truth-nude-art>

Interview with Beth Mandel, *Arts Now NC*, August 14, 2014
<http://artsnownc.com/2014/08/14/artist-talk-dan-smith/>

[MFAEDA Class of 2016 group feature, *Document*, Fall 2014](#)
http://issuu.com/cds.duke/docs/document_fall2014_issuucopy/