

Olivia Comstock

Updated January 2025

Education

- Present PhD candidate in Art History, University of Minnesota (UMN), Twin Cities.
- Start: Fall 2020, expected graduation Summer 2027
- 2021-22 Fulbright Research/Study. Humboldt Universität. Berlin, Germany
- 2019 B.A. in Philosophy, minor in German. University of Idaho. Moscow, ID
- Honors Thesis: "Sara Joyce: Catalogue Raisonné of Clay"
- 2017-18 National Student Exchange. University of New Mexico. Albuquerque, NM

Fellowships and Awards

- 2024 Writing Retreat. Center for Race, Indigeneity, Disability, Gender & Sexuality Studies, UMN.
- 2024 Summer Research Award, Department of Art History, UMN (\$5000).
- 2023-24 Toward Equity in Publishing Program, *American Art Journal* (\$1000).
- 2024 Conference Travel Funding, Department of Art History, UMN (\$1500).
- 2023 Conference Travel Funding, Department of Art History, UMN (\$2500).
- 2023 Research Travel Funding, Department of Art History, UMN (\$1800).
- 2023 Graduate Student Internship Program, College of Liberal Arts, UMN (\$6000).
- 2021-22 Fulbright Open Research/Study Award, Germany (\$15,000).
- A nationally competitive grant to support an independent research project and studies for two academic semesters at a German university.
- Independent Project: "Design Your Own Fluxus Experience" Workshops
- Affiliate Institutions: Museum FLUXUS+, Humboldt Universität, and Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany
- 2021 Summer Research Award, Department of Art History, UMN (\$5000).
- 2021 Research Support Funds, Department of Art History, UMN (\$300).
- 2020 Graduate Recruitment Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, UMN (\$25,000).
- Two semester relief from teaching.
- 2020 Beverly & Richard Fink First-Year Fellowship Award, College of Liberal Arts, UMN (\$4000).
- 2019 Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- 2019 Honor's Core Award, University of Idaho
- 2016-19 Francis Seaman Philosophy Scholarship, University of Idaho
- 2015 Honor's Program Fellow, University of Idaho

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2025 "Toward a Critical New Deal Legacy: The Performance of Colcha in New Mexico," *Source: Notes in Art History*. Special Issue: Confronting the Legacy of New Deal Art in the Twenty-first Century. (Accepted, with expected publication Summer 2025)

- 2025 “*Table Remains: Sites of Discipline and Alternative Empathies, or an Invitation for Found Object Transformation*,” *US Latinx Art Forum*, X as Intersection: Writing on Latinx Art--Materiality of Memory. (Accepted, with expected publication Spring 2025)
- 2024 “Weaving Anni Albers through Édouard Glissant: The Opacity of Embodied and Material Knowledge,” *Journal of Black Mountain College Studies*, Volume 15.

Reviews

- 2024 “Bobby Marines’ “Resurrection” at Northeast Sculpture Gallery Factory: February 2023,” *Venue*, Volume 1, no. 2.

Magazines

- 2023 [Crafting Queer Futures: A Conversation With Embodied Material Artists](#), *MN Artists*

Blogs

- 2024 [More Beautiful, & More Terrible: Thinking with Baldwin](#), Weisman Art Museum.
- 2023 [Why Look at Animals?](#), Weisman Art Museum
- 2023 [Telling our Stories: A Conversation with Multimedia Artist Marina Castillo](#), CLA Chicano and Latino Studies Dept.

Presentations and Lectures

- 2025 February 12-15. Panel chair, “Hands-On: Critical Connections Between Craft and Pedagogy.” College Art Association Conference. Co-chair: Julia Hamer-Light. Discussant: Michelle Millar Fisher.
- 2024 October 22. Guest Lecturer, “Artists Respond to Fascism and WWII: German Émigrés and Art Education.” For “ARTH 2390: US Art and Visual Culture.” University of Minnesota Duluth.
- 2024 June 24-26. Panel Organizer and Moderator, “Student-Led Art Museum Learning: Student Gallery Teaching Programs and Belonging through Participation.” Association of Academic Museums and Galleries Annual Conference. Online.
- 2024 February 14-17. Presenter, “Toward a Critical New Deal Legacy: Handicraft and Hispano/a Art in New Mexico.” College Art Association Conference, Chicago. Organizer: Erica Doss and Mary Okin.
- 2023 November 9-11. Invited presenter, “Settling in Again: A Day-in-the-Life of Marguerite Wildenhain.” Society for US Intellectual History Conference. Denver, CO. Organizer: Juliana Ariel DeVaan.
- 2023 October 13-15. Presenter, “Weaving Anni Albers through Édouard Glissant: The Opacity of Embodied and Material Knowledge.” ReVIEWING Black Mountain College 14: International Conference. Asheville, NC.

- 2023 September 23-24. Presenter. "Revisioning the Past for the Present: Octavia Butler and Bisa Butler." University of Pittsburgh Film and Media Studies Graduate Conference. Online.
- 2023 June 22-24. Presenter. "Weaving Édouard Glissant's Opacity: the Case for Craft Making as Material Knowledge Production." Caribbean Philosophical Association Conference. Online.
- 2023 Accepted but unable to attend. "Black Aesthetics of the Everyday: Worldbuilding through the Joy of Quilting." College Art Association, NYC.
- 2021 September 30-October 2. Invited presenter. "Art and Queer Community," Fulbright Prism Out in the World Conference. Online. Organizer: Mailé Nguyễn.
- 2020 May 13. Presenter. "Silencing Non-binary Gender," Society of Women in Philosophy Inland Northwest Conference. Online.
- 2018 Presenter. "Sara Joyce: Catalogue Raisonné of Clay." Western Regional Honor's Conference. Orange, CA.

Curatorial Experience

- 2024 Independent Curator. *Edible*. March 2-April 21. Northern Clay Center. Minneapolis, MN. Exhibition catalogue.
- 2021 Co-curator. *iPresente!: 50 Years of Chicano & Latino Studies*. February 8-May 16. Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES), St. Paul, MN.

Relevant Professional Experience

- Sept 2022-June 2024 Public Engagement and Learning Associate, Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis MN. Part time.
 - Developed diverse curriculum focused on accessibility for undergraduate student gallery teaching program.
 - Managed and trained student gallery teachers.
 - Wrote articles for WAM blog.
- Summer 2023 Exhibition Intern, Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN. Part time.
 - Developed curatorial concept for *Edible*.
 - Installed summer exhibition.
 - Managed artist contracts.
 - Catalogued permanent collection.
- Spring 2023 Community Engaged Learning Project, Chicano and Latino Studies Department, UMN. Part time.
 - Collaborated with Serpentina Arts to meet the needs of local Latinx artists.
 - Wrote biographical and artist statement for artist in consultation with artist.
- Fall 2021 Co-facilitator, Shelley Sacks *Frametalks*, Museum FLUXUS+, Berlin, Germany

- May 2019-Aug 2020 Notetaking and Captioning Assistant, University of Idaho Center for Disability Access and Resources. Full time.
- Provided C-Print captioning services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students.
 - Managed, hired, and trained over 70 undergraduate student notetakers per semester.
 - Managed student notetaking and captioning accommodations.
 - Used Accessible Information Management database.
 - Led disability trainings for new university instructors.
- Summer 2019 Research Assistant, Dr. Casey Johnson, Department of Politics and Philosophy, University of Idaho. Part time.
- Supported project on care ethics.
- Spring 2019 Digital Preservation Intern, University of Idaho Archives and Special Collections. Part time.
- Preserved and ingested born digital collections on obsolete media into the digital archive.
 - Created metadata reports using digital forensic tools.
- Spring 2018 Community Engaged Learning Intern, University of New Mexico Art Museum. Part time.
- Wrote three art acquisition proposals.
- Sept 2017- May 2018 Staff Member, *Scribendi: Arts and Literary Magazine*, Honor's College, University of New Mexico. Part time.
- Reviewed and selected submissions, copyedited submissions for final publication, and communicated with authors.
 - Designed magazine layouts with InDesign.
 - Marketed magazine.

Teaching

- 2022-present Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
- ARTH 1002: Why Art Matters (Writing Intensive with TA-led sections)
 - ARTH 1921: Introduction to Film Studies (Writing Intensive with TA-led sections)
 - ARTH 1004: Introduction to Asian Art (Online Writing Intensive with TA-led sections)
 - ARTH 3019: Buddhist Art and Architecture (Writing Intensive. Reader/Grader)
 - ARTH 3012: 19th and 20th Century Art (Reader/Grader)
 - ARTH 3315: Art, Science and Technology in Europe, 1400-1800 (Reader/Grader)
- 2018-19 Drop-in German Tutor, University of Idaho

Professional Service

- 2022-present Art History Graduate Student Committee for Visiting Scholars, UMN.
- 2018-20 Founder and facilitator, Queer Sewing Circle

Professional Development

- 2022 Commenting on and Grading Student Writing, UMN
- 2020 New Teaching Assistant Orientation, UMN
- 2020 C-Print Captioning STEM Training, Rochester Institute of Technology

2020 The Future of Notetaking Accommodations, Accessible Information Management
2019 C-Print Captioning Training, Rochester Institute of Technology

Languages

German Intermediate
French Reading knowledge
Adobe InDesign