

Lisa Lezell Levine

Artist's Statement

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As an artist and an educator, I maintain an ongoing pursuit of knowledge and techniques in the Arts. My motivation comes from the quality of the work that I produce and my environment. The best artists define details through their own passions, which brings exuberance to their work. At the age of two I started drawing with my finger in the mud and I have never stopped finding different alternatives. At age 19 I found myself at Rhode Island School of Design, (B.F.A. 1977) and have never look back. RISD formed my art and life foundations. In addition I obtained a B. A. in Early Childhood Education, Simmons College, Boston Massachusetts, 1975 and a M.A. in Visual Communication and Illustration from Syracuse University, New York in 1995.

I have had the honor of being an Elementary and High School Art Resource Teacher with Richmond Public Schools. During my tenure I worked with VCU student Art teachers and was a part of the VCU Clinical faculty, department of Education. My student teachers under my direction painted murals throughout Richmond Public Schools. In 2008 I was awarded the Southeastern Region Elementary Art Educator of the Year, NAEA.

Throughout my career I have loved being a part of the Jewish Community Center Sara D November Art Gallery. In 2010 I organized an exhibition, "Jewish Experiences through Our Eyes", juried the "Undiscovered Artists Show", 2016 and assisted the JCC's marketing department in the creation of a staff photo exhibition about their group trip to Israel, 2018. I now have the honor of curating our current "Hope" exhibition.

I have always given back through the exhibition of my paintings participating in many Art auctions including Artspace and Faison School for Autism. One of my greatest joys was my collaboration with UNOS in the development of a group show in 2018 which I named "Second Chances" an exhibition of artwork reflecting the lives of transplant recipients because everyone deserves a second chance to live. In addition, I exhibit at the downtown branch of the Richmond Public Library where in 2017 presented in a two-person show, "Near and Far". I look forward to a future show this November, "City Streets"

I am determined to create art in our challenging and changing world, creating images that reflect what I witness. Art assures me of my interconnectedness to being human and that is why I continue to create and give back.