

## Contact

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## Top Skills

Mental Health

Facilitation

Collaborative Leadership

# El Tapia-Kwan

Arts Educator, Creator, & Advocate  
Dade City, Florida, United States

## Summary

Providing under-resourced communities exposure to the power of expression through the arts. Focus of interest on the intersections of LGBTQ+ community and youth affected by the carceral system. Currently teaching through the Tampa Museum of Art, Nomad Art Studio, and Arts 4 All Florida. Also offering cathartic creativity services via Just Be Rooted and EITapiaKwan.com

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## Experience

### NOMADstudio

Arts Instructor

August 2023 - Present (1 month)

Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Pasco Counties

Facilitating visual arts programming with adolescents in carceral or social service settings

### Tampa Museum of Art

Arts Instructor

January 2023 - Present (8 months)

Tampa, Florida, United States

Teaching Ceramics at the Tampa Museum of Arts (Handbuilding and Wheel Throwing)

### Arts4All Florida

Artist In Residence

October 2022 - Present (11 months)

Pasco County, Florida, United States

Providing opportunities for visual expression to youth detained in Pasco Regional Detention Center

### Freelance

Independent Arts Instructor

August 2022 - Present (1 year 1 month)

Central Florida

Instructing multimedia arts (fiber, ceramics, metal, resin, glass) in local community centers, detention centers, shops, and private parties

### Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Prodigy Arts Instructor

November 2022 - January 2023 (3 months)

Lacoochee, Florida, United States

Prodigy is a prevention program for youth in underserved communities funded by the Department for Juvenile Justice. Lessons on emotional regulation and anger management are integrated in arts classes for ages 5-17.

### Metro Inclusive Health

LGBTQ+ Program Specialist Lead

January 2022 - August 2022 (8 months)

Tampa, Florida, United States

Creating engaging programs for youth ages 13-17 that identify within the LGBTQIA+ Spectrum

### City of Tampa

Special Programs Leader II Visual Arts

November 2019 - January 2022 (2 years 3 months)

Tampa/St. Petersburg, Florida Area

Teaching Visual Arts to the community of Tampa Bay through the City of Tampa's Parks and Recreation Art Studios

### TrueCore Behavioral Solutions

Teaching Artist

September 2019 - October 2019 (2 months)

Lake Academy

Creating a mural within Lake Academy by and for residential youth. Workshops with youth include designing, planning, and painting the mural. EST. Date of completion: October 24th, 2019

### San Antonio Pottery

Pottery Teacher / Assistant

February 2019 - September 2019 (8 months)

San Antonio, florida

Teaching one-day workshops and assisting 6-week classes at San Ann Pottery.

### VSA arts

### Artist In Residence

June 2019 - July 2019 (2 months)

San Antonio, FL

Teaching fine art and journaling to youth ages 13-17 in a Juvenile Detention Center

### Sunrise of Pasco County Domestic & Sexual Violence Center Shelter Advocate

April 2019 - June 2019 (3 months)

Dade City, FL

Providing emotional and logistical support to survivors of Domestic and Sexual Violence. Answering hotlines and providing resources.

### VSA arts

#### Artist In Residence

January 2019 - February 2019 (2 months)

Lutz, Florida

Teaching Ceramics, Painting, and Dance to Young Women ages 13-17 in a Juvenile Detention Center

### Studio Works, Dubuque

#### Figure Model

December 2018 - December 2018 (1 month)

Dubuque, Iowa

Posing for a drawing/painting class, clothed with an emphasis on head anatomy

### Creative Adventure Lab

#### Instructor / Guest Services / Studio Lab Monitor

February 2018 - November 2018 (10 months)

Dubuque, Iowa Area

Teaching ceramics to adults and children in both classes and camps.  
Providing guest services at the front desk, and assisting in pottery production.

### Hillcrest Family Services

#### Mental Health Counselor

February 2018 - April 2018 (3 months)

Dubuque, Iowa Area

Providing supervision of residents in Adult Group homes. Tasks included passing medications at approved times, providing positive experiences to the

residents outside of the Group Home, and taking documentation of personal and social goals assigned to each individual.

### Artists' Exchange

#### Clay Studio Technician

October 2016 - May 2017 (8 months)

Cranston, Rhode Island

- Kiln loading, unloading, scheduling
- Individual Directive lessons in Ceramics
- Covering classes for both children and disabled adults
- Clay recycling
- Glaze maintenance
- Supervision of Clay Studio Tech Assistant

### Providence Art Club

#### Figure Model

October 2016 - February 2017 (5 months)

Providence, Rhode Island Area

- Short and extended poses
- Static and dynamic poses

### Artists' Exchange

7 months

#### Studio Technician

September 2015 - December 2015 (4 months)

Recycling clay, loading and unloading kilns, supervising open studio hours, general maintenance of ceramic studios.

### Art Therapy and Ceramics Intern

June 2015 - August 2015 (3 months)

Cranston, Rhode Island

Teaching Art Therapy with Clients, teaching Ceramic tile making with children, assisting in other classes, and performing Ceramic tech duties.

### Rhode Island School of Design

11 months

#### Studio Tech

June 2015 - August 2015 (3 months)

### Pottery Techniques TA

February 2015 - May 2015 (4 months)

### Glaze Room Maintenance

October 2014 - May 2015 (8 months)

Restocking the Glaze room with materials from the storage room, ordering new materials, and maintaining organization within the glaze room.

### Ceramic Science TA

January 2015 - February 2015 (2 months)

### Barry University

#### Ceramics Studio Work Study

August 2012 - May 2014 (1 year 10 months)

#### Ceramics Studio

-Cleaning the facility

-Aiding any students from other ceramic classes

-Making glazes

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## Education

### Rhode Island School of Design

Bachelor's Degree, Ceramics · (2014 - 2017)

### Southwestern College (NM)

Art Therapy and Counseling · (September 2022)

### Universidad de Monterrey

Bachelor's Degree, Fine and Studio Arts · (2016 - 2016)

### Barry University

Bachelor's Degree, Ceramic Major, Communication Studies

Minor · (2012 - 2014)

### Southwestern College (NM)

Master's degree, Art Therapy and Counseling · (September 2022)