

Brittany McConnell

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Bachelor in Fine Arts – currently enrolled – expected graduation 2015 <i>University of North Carolina – Greensboro (Online Distance Program)</i>	2013
Associate in Arts (English) & NC Substitute Teacher Certification <i>Tri-County Community College – Murphy, NC</i>	2007 – 2011
Diploma in Commercial Photography <i>North Georgia Technical College – Clarksville, GA</i>	2004 – 2006

WORK HISTORY

Administrative Assistant, Financial Aid **July, 2012 - present**
Southwestern Community College – Sylva, NC

- Frontline person for meeting with students before, and determining if they need further counseling with a Financial Aid Counselor.
- Answer phones, and return calls regarding students' financial aid.
- Work up student loan applications, and provide loan counseling for each student.
- Work with Southwest Child Care Development as the contact person for students who participate in the Southwest Child Care Grant.
- Provide support to the entire Financial Aid office.
- Maintain office organization to maximize efficiency.
- Input student file information into the college's database software, Datatel.
- Help students file FAFSA, and understand the processes that are involved in the Financial Aid process; also, help with FAFSA nights for local high school students.
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Program Operation Assistant & Resident Photography Artist **2009 – present**
John C. Campbell Folk School – Brasstown, NC

- Foster and maintain relationships with students, instructors, staff, and resident artists, ensuring that individuals feel supported, empowered, and warmly welcomed into the Folk School community
- Lead weekly instructor/student orientation, meetings, & closing ceremonies for approximately 150 people
- Spearhead, organize, and implement weekly activities.
- Collaborate closely with all Folk School departments in the management of all studio space and student housing, as well as assuring the smooth running of all extra activities
- Act as Resident Photography Artist with duties that include scheduling all future photography instructors for the Folk School, communicating with instructors before, during, and after their class at the Folk School. maintaining studio, and being available for any technical troubles that may arise
- Teach class at the school in portraiture and beginning photography, and provide back-up support for instructors that need additional help with students during their classes
- Experience and gain appreciation for and knowledge of a huge range of traditional and contemporary art/craft media (Photography, Printmaking, Paper Arts, Mixed Media, etc.)
- Act as the public face of the Folk School ensuring consistency with the Folk School mission and approach (e.g., non-competitive learning environment, conservation and celebration of traditional folk art and music)

Owner – Professional Photographer**2006 – Present*****Brittany McConnell Photography***

- Photograph weddings, people, events, commercial projects, products, advertisements, etc.
- Plan meetings, sessions and other contracted activities
- Manage all financial aspects of owning a small business
- Direct creative aspects of all photo sessions and weddings
- Work up detailed schedules for weddings and special events to ensure efficiency, greatly reducing stress for all parties involved
- Work with several local business for national and local advertisements
- Teach workshops in digital photography and Photoshop

Teller**2006 – 2009*****North Carolina State Employees Credit Union – Hayesville, NC (2008-2009)******United Community Bank – Hiawassee, GA (2006-2008)***

- Accurately complete all manner of financial transactions for customers
- Help in the everyday balancing and management of ATMs & coin-sorters
- Multi-task on daily basis while working in high stress situations
- Maintain discretion and positive communication with customers

Digital Photography Instructor**2007 – 2008*****North Georgia Technical College – Blairsville, GA***

- Instruct students in the proper use and workings of SLR digital cameras
- Engage students in discussions and debates on various types of photography and the uses each has in today's society
- Work individually with students to ensure their understanding of digital photography and all that it encompasses
- Lead students in public critiques and how to better their work and work ethic

Photographer**2005 – 2006*****PCA International – Matthews, NC***

- Travel to various shoot locations, mostly across Kentucky & Tennessee, for week-long directory shooting appointments
- Set up and break down large studio equipment each week
- Maintain positive attitude while working with a large variety of clients, being sensitive to each individual's personality
- Work closely with salesperson each week to ensure a quality service and a wonderful experience for each individual and family
- Work efficiently with each client to efficiently maneuver through tight schedules

ACCOMPLISHMENTS/AWARDS/EXHIBITIONS

National Technical Honor Society Member/Alumni

Photographs featured on billboards (2009-2011), and photographs featured on an episode of "Say Yes to the Dress, Atlanta" (2011)

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Reading; creative speaking in public; concerts and music festivals; exploring various media of expression including mixed media, photography, knitting and fiber arts, world history enthusiast