

Kenneth Heinze , BFA

Omaha, NE | [402/637-7017] | [kensmurals@yahoo.com] | [[Portfolio](#)]

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Interdisciplinary Artist, Educator, and Digital Fabricator with over 20 years of experience bridging traditional fine arts with advanced technical fabrication. Proven track record of teaching hands-on, cross-disciplinary courses at Metropolitan Community College and directing large-scale, community-facing creative studios. Deeply embedded in the Omaha and Chicago contemporary art ecosystems, blending high-level studio mentorships with expertise in digital manufacturing (CNC, laser carving), 3D design, and studio safety management.

HIGHER EDUCATION INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor (Continuing Education) | *Metropolitan Community College, Omaha, NE* | 2021 – 2025

- **Curriculum Development & Instruction:** Designed and taught highly popular, specialized courses merging art, design, and physics, including *Sound and Cymatics*, *Young Inventor Workshop*, 3D Printing, and *Laser Carving*.
- **Technical Artistry & Fabrication:** Formulated and instructed *Build Your Own Guitar on CNC*, guiding students through 3D CAD/CAM software, material selection, structural integrity, and digital manufacturing workflows.
- **Studio Management:** Managed classroom safety protocols, inventory, and machine maintenance across multiple digital and manual tools, ensuring an accessible learning environment for diverse student populations.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & STUDIO MENTORSHIPS

Studio Mentorship Program | *Bemis Center for Contemporary Arts, Omaha, NE* | 2021 – 2025

- Engaged in rigorous, one-on-one professional mentorships, critical reviews, and technical project consultations with internationally renowned residency artists.
- Collaborated on resolving complex structural, material, and spatial challenges for cutting-edge contemporary art installations and experimental media.

CREATIVE STUDIO LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Community Maker Space Lab Manager | *Kiewit Luminarium, Omaha, NE* | 2022 – 2025

- **Studio Launch & Budgeting:** Directed the \$400K outfitting and launch of a professional, state-of-the-art fabrication studio; managed all vendor logistics, general contractors, and procurement under budget and on time.
- **Safety & Compliance:** Authored comprehensive Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and safety training frameworks for advanced machinery, making complex fabrication

accessible to local artists and community members.

- **Crisis Response (2020):** Designed and managed the rapid-response distribution of 19,000+ custom-fabricated face shields for regional frontline health organizations.

Gallery Assistant & Assistant Curator | Jan Cicero Gallery, Chicago, IL | 1984 – 1987

- Co-managed curation, preparation, and physical installation for a pioneering gallery in the River North art district, specializing in abstract art and representing underrepresented Native American contemporary artists.
- Maintained daily gallery operations, public relations, and client accounts, stewarding relationships with regional and national collectors.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- **Forthcoming Exhibition**, Razor Wire Gallery, Omaha, NE | *Fall 2026*
- **Group Exhibition**, *Generator Series*, Amplify Arts, Omaha, NE | 2026
- **Group Exhibition**, *Group Show “The Failure Collective”*, Amplify Arts, Omaha, NE | 2025
- **Panelist / Public Speaker**, *Contemporary Interdisciplinary Practices*, Amplify Arts, Omaha, NE | 2024
- *Chicago Venues and Galleries, 1985 - 1996* Gallery Cabaret, The Theater Building, L'amerique, The Orbit Room, Gallery 1370, ArtGolf.

TECHNICAL SKILLS & EXPERTISE

- **Digital Fabrication & CAM/CAD:** V-Carve (5 yrs), SketchUp (5 yrs), Mach3 (6 yrs), CNC Programming (4 yrs), SolidWorks.
- **Fine Arts & Industrial Studio:** Glassblowing, Architectural Concrete, Laser Engraving/Cutting, Furnace & Kiln Construction, Large-Scale Sculpture Rigging.
- **Academic Leadership:** Syllabus Design, Student Mentorship, Budgetary Oversight (\$400K+), Safety SOP Architecture.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in Fine Arts

Columbia College Chicago, Chicago, IL | Graduated 1984

- *Professional Assistantships:* Completed multiple intensive studio assistantships supporting established Chicago artists in large-scale sculpture fabrication, casting, and kiln construction.
- *Scholarships:* Annual Pougialis award recipient. one of 12 Annual Weisman scholarship recipients 1985

