

# Caressa Givens

Community Engagement Coordinator

cgivens322@gmail.com

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## Experience

### **Board Member at Friends Hank Aaron State Trail**

March 2016 - Present (1 year 1 month)

### **Community Engagement Coordinator at Bublr Bikes**

March 2016 - Present (1 year 1 month)

As the CEC along with a team we provide extended education and encouragement in the use of bikes share by developing and maintaining partnerships with various institutions, organizations, and other members of the community who share a common purpose in the development of sustainable urban centers.

### **Bicycle and Walking safety Instructor/Community Organizer at Wisconsin Bike Fed**

March 2012 - June 2016 (4 years 4 months)

The Bike Fed has educated more than 10,000 students through our Safe Routes to School programming in communities across Wisconsin, including Madison, Milwaukee, Kenosha, Union Grove, Appleton, Sturgeon Bay, Oregon, Waterford, Marshall, Sheboygan and West Allis. Safe Routes to School is a federally funded program to increase the number and safety of kids walking and biking to school through “the five E’s” of traffic safety: education, engineering, encouragement, enforcement and evaluation.

### **Artist Assistant (Fine Arts) at Jill Sebastian**

December 2009 - March 2011 (1 year 4 months)

I've had the great opportunity to work with public artist and former professor Jill Sebastian on a project commissioned by the University of Madison Wisconsin.

Union South is a beautiful addition to UW-Madison the building has been designed to last longer than myself and it has many eco friendly features.

As a team member I aided in sculptural building for the unions's hearth piece and also contributed to the development of the northeast entrances etched glass prairie scape.

-Preliminary sculpting

-Casting

-Graphic Design (Adobe CS, Illustrator)

Each piece of glass had been hand cut from a mask and etched onto the large glass window panes. <http://cwerks.tumblr.com>

### **Co-Founder and Co-Representative at The Part Time Gallery**

April 2010 - January 2011 (10 months)

Hosted a diversity of activities from gallery shows, to performances, and book releases.

Along with three others, I co-managed the space, responsibilities were graphic design/public relations, curatorial functions, and preparatory functions

### **Artist/ Designer's Assistant at Spolar Fine Arts Studio**

June 2008 - June 2009 (1 year 1 month)

- Historic restoration (commercial and residential).
- Painting: trompe l'oeil, commercial and residential interiors, faux and fine finishes.
- Wood, plastic and metal fabrication; trade shows, commercial kiosks.
- Large format print preparation and installation.
- Digital image correction, photo documentation utilizing Adobe CS
- General office duties, filing accounts, phone inquiries, and appointments.

Milwaukee Inst. of Art and Design

### **Gallery Assistant at Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design**

June 2005 - December 2007 (2 years 7 months)

- Set up and take down of temporary exhibits (involves use of hand and power tools, AV, lighting, etc.)
- Packing and shipping of art works
- cataloging permanent collections
- preparing labels and insurance/liability contracts for artists and their works

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## Volunteer Experience

**bike mechanic at milwaukee bicycle collective**

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## Courses

**(BFA), Printmaking**

Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design  
casting and carving

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## Languages

**French**

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## Skills & Expertise

**Painting**

**Art**

**Printmaking**

**Outlook**  
**Photoshop**  
**Graphic Design**  
**Drawing**  
**Social Media**  
**Microsoft Office**  
**Teaching**  
**Arts**  
**Fine Art**  
**Sculpture**  
**Contemporary Art**  
**Visual Arts**  
**Hospitality**  
**Public Art**  
**Art Exhibitions**  
**Mac**  
**Art Education**  
**Acrylic**  
**Community Development**  
**Collage**  
**Adobe Illustrator**  
**Illustrator**

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## Interests

Collaborating, solving problems, eating

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## Education

### **Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design**

(BFA), Printmaking, 2004 - 2008

Activities and Societies: student rep of printmaking department, community supported agriculture program

### **Pacific Northwest College of Art**

Semester study program, printmaking, 2007 - 2007

### **Appleton West**

2000 - 2004

Activities and Societies: soccer, drama, band, and layout for news paper

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## Summary

I have a great passion for Milwaukee. I believe in accessible, multi-modal cities, because it is a facet and therefore mark of a thriving city. In Milwaukee I have taken a great interest in active transportation, educating all ages and walks of life about the benefits of biking and walking, and of course having fun!

Making our cities safe, and accessible takes people power. Remember if you are not at the table, you most likely are on the menu!

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[Contact Caressa on LinkedIn](#)