



Service Learning Project

Artists Talk on Art ATOA

By Jason Palmeri

Opening Comments

When I first read through the course syllabus and saw that we were required to do volunteer work, I got a little nervous. Firstly, I live in New Hampshire, and there are basically no volunteer options near me, and secondly I am an Introvert, so going around and talking to people is not my forte. I was lucky enough to find an online volunteering opportunity at Artists Talk on Art as their webmaster.

My weeks volunteering at AToA have been fun and exciting, and they wanted me to stay as their webmaster even after the semester.



Entry 1 Discussion

I've never volunteered before, and trying to find a local place to volunteer at was difficult. I searched online for remote opportunities and stumbled upon volunteermatch.org, which had a plethora of online volunteering opportunities for peoples of all skills. From here I searched for more computer focused roles, specifically web development/design roles. After signing up at many organizations, I received a reply back from Douglas Sheer, the head of Artists Talk on Art (AToA). We discussed many things during our first phone call, and right away he was impressed with the skills I could bring to AToA's web presence. Douglas was very knowledgeable about the organization and its mission, and I was impressed with his passion for the arts and his dedication to supporting emerging artists. After our initial phone call I was in as a volunteer for AToA, and I couldn't wait to get started.



Douglas Sheer

WEBSITE

Jason Palmeri

Entry 2 Discussion: Objective One



An image from our Black History Month Panel

We look at many topics during the Kirkpatrick Signature Series, from analyzing the importance of justice, dissent, and equality to assessing our impact on our communities through engaged citizenship. The first Objective I hoped to display during my volunteer work at Artists Talk on Art was Analyzing the importance of justice, dissent, and equality to the functioning of a republican government.

By volunteering at AToA, I wanted to actively work towards creating a more just and equal space within the art world. AToA aims to provide a platform for emerging artists, many of whom come from marginalized communities.

Entry 2 Discussion: Objective Two

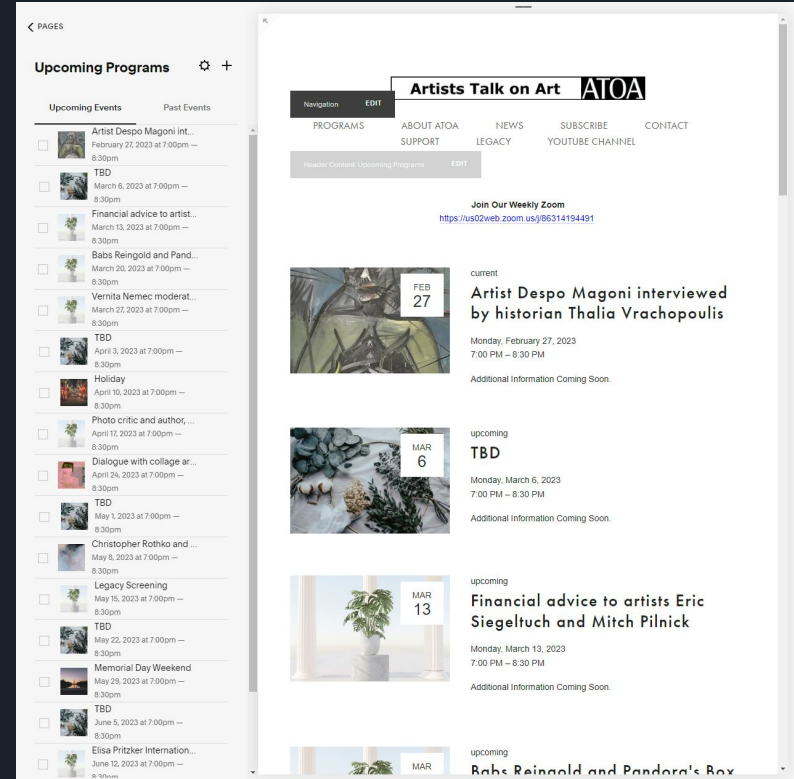
Volunteering at Artists Talk on Art relates to many of the objectives mentioned in the syllabus. For the second objective I wanted to display the importance of the Constitution and the structure of the government it creates for individual rights. As a volunteer of AToA, I worked to ensure that artists rights are protected and upheld. AToA aims to provide a platform for artists to express themselves freely and without fear of censorship. This aligns with the principles of the Constitution, which guarantees the right to free speech and freedom of expression.



StockPhoto (2023)

Volunteer Work to Date

- Manage Artists Talk on Art's web presence
- Create web pages for weekly events
- Create web pages for new topics
- Edit existing web pages with new content
- Clean up web pages that were not being used anymore
- Attend meetings bi-monthly to discuss further plans



Editing the website

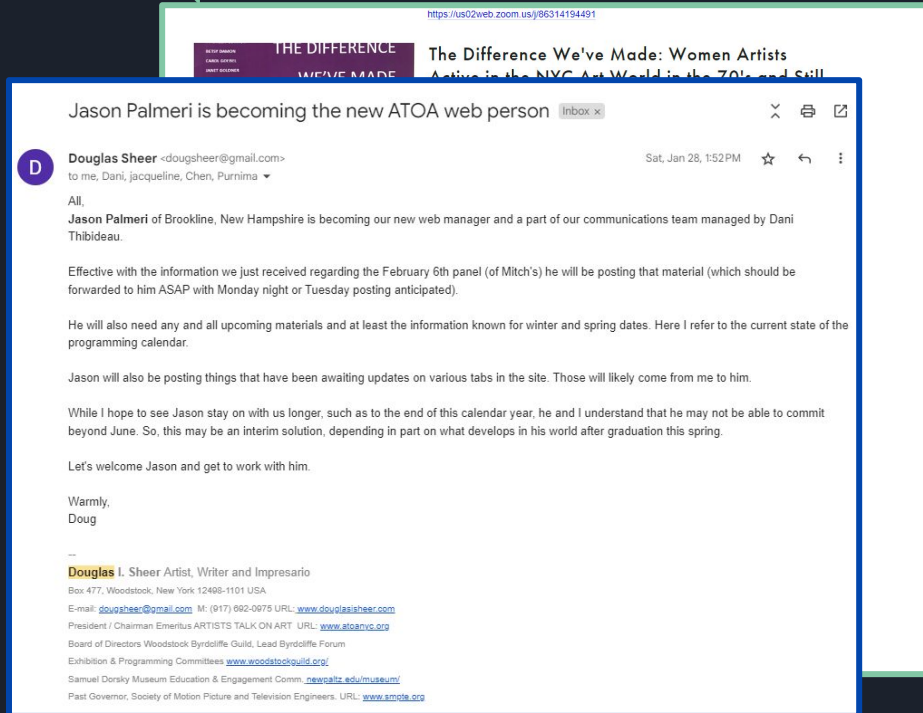
Volunteer Work to Date (Cont.)

When I first talked to Douglas about the work I would be doing at Artists Talk on Art, he described it as a weekly “check-in”. Since the First week I have been on a schedule to upload new event details, typically before tuesday morning. AToA hosts all their events on Mondays, from 7 PM to 8:30 PM, and after these events they send out a newsletter detailing the next weeks monday night event, and It is my job to post this next event on the website. So for the past few weeks, every monday night, I look out for the newsletter and get to work uploading it to the web. My other duties have included cleaning up the website, adjusting links, fixing bugs, and adding new content to the menu bars, and static pages. AToA uses Squarespace to host their website, and while it was new to me, I quickly picked it up, and have been having a great time using it as a content management system.

☆	Douglas Sheer	updated and -- full -- 2023 spring panel and dialogue schedule - interviewed by	11:47 AM
☆	Douglas Sheer	text with Larry Rivers pic - chairman, Doug Sheer (L) greets artist Larry Rivers wi...	Mar 22
☆	Douglas Sheer	Fwd: ATOA - com Hello Doug I did receive your recent email, I apologize for not r... One Half Montec... Impose Montec... Frito Montecalv... +5	Mar 22
☆	Douglas Sheer	more information for the upcoming panels tab - need, Doug -- "Douglas I. Sheer...	Mar 22
☆	Douglas, me 3	Fwd: all the panel info - it Doug On Sun, Mar 19, 2023, 3:27 PM Jason Palmeri wr...	Mar 19
☆	dathibode... Miruna 26	ATOA Communications Meeting (Recurring) - in Doug On Wed, Mar 1, 2023 at 7...	Mar 17
☆	Douglas Sheer	Using Grace behind her camera - growing pains we've encountered as we've tra...	Mar 16
☆	Douglas, me 4	Fwd: Pandora's BoxX Project: Panel Discussion - please fix ATOA site - Babs. Do GRACE ROSELL... Roselli ATOT_P...	Mar 16
☆	Douglas Sheer	Subjects related to our communications - Warmly, Doug -- "Douglas I. Sheer * A...	Mar 16
☆	me, mitch, JJ 4	March 13th Event - respond to Doug & Eric, > assuming Eric had forwarded Britt ...	Mar 14
☆	Douglas, mitch 2	Re: March 13th Event and a blast - Best, Doug On Sat, Mar 11, 2023, 3:39 PM Jaso...	Mar 11
☆	Douglas... Taylor 4	Addition of Taylor Gray - Thanks, Doug and welcome Taylor! I've added you to th...	Mar 10
☆	Artists Talk On Art	ATOA Monday March 6th Panel: "Driven to Abstraction" at 7pm EST - Art's pre...	Mar 6
☆	Artists Talk On Art	ATOA Opening March 4th Exhibition: "Driven to Abstraction" from 4 to 7PM - A...	Mar 4
☆	Douglas Sheer 2	A. D. Coleman and Doug Sheer dialogue on Coleman's life and work - Coleman / Image.png	Mar 1
☆	Douglas, me 3	(no subject) - group, Doug On Wed, Mar 1, 2023 at 10:29 AM Jason Palmeri wrot...	Mar 1
☆	Douglas Sheer	Re: other images - got missed Doug On Wed, Mar 1, 2023, 10:29 AM Jason Palme...	Mar 1
☆	Douglas Sheer	Bow Bridge has come on board as our pro bono public relations council - Warml...	Feb 28
☆	Xinrong Chen - Ther.	Materials for March 6th event - moderator, Doug, and the three artists Kathy Go...	Feb 27
☆	Artists Talk On Art	ATOA Monday March 6th Panel: "Driven to Abstraction" at 7pm EST - Art...	Feb 27
☆	Douglas Sheer	Also forward the March 6th blast - To Jason, Karina and Mitch for posts... Doug	Feb 27
☆	Douglas, me 3	Juneteenth logo for the June 19th panel - in, Doug On Fri, Feb 24, 2023 at 10:14 ...	Feb 24
☆	Douglas Sheer	Fwd: follow up regards May 8th - Thanks, Doug -- Sorry for the slow reply. Lots ... CHR Publicity P... CHR Publicity P... Extra short bio ...	Feb 22
☆	Douglas, me 3	ATOA Monday March 6th Panel: "Driven to Abstraction" at 7pm EST - Art...	Feb 22

Daily emails

Entry 10: “Conclusions”



1. The Service Learning Project helped me to better understand my role as an engaged citizen. While I was skeptical at first about having to volunteer, it was a great experience at the end. I made some great connections and learned a lot in my web master role, and I also learned some things about the art world.
2. I was definitely reluctant to participate in this SLP, but the smooth experience I had at AToA really changed my mind, and I'm glad I stuck through.
3. The SLP was a very rewarding experience. Getting to volunteer at AToA was nice and really got me out of my comfort zone, and I'm glad I found a place to volunteer at that let me use the skills I've been learning at Bellevue University.

Getting accepted to volunteer



Citations

Sheer, D. (1974). *Artists Talk on Art Logo*. Artists Talk on Art. Retrieved February 24, 2023, from <https://www.atoanyc.org/>.

Sheer, D. (2023). *Douglas Sheer*. Artists Talk on Art. Retrieved 2023, from <https://www.atoanyc.org/board-team-1>.

Sheer, D. (2023). *Celebrating Black History Month: What It Means to be an Artists of Color*. Artists Talk on Art. Retrieved 2023, from <https://www.atoanyc.org/past-fall-programs/black-history-month-panel-moderated-by-mitch-pilnick>.

StockPhoto, S. P. (2023). *Constitution of the United States*. Retrieved 2023, from <https://www.istockphoto.com/photo/we-the-people-gm140443836-3288724>.