



# Claire Pongonis

Artist + Educator

714 E Jackson Drive Fayetteville, AR 72701  
hello@clairepongonis.com | 479-549-7309  
clairepongonis.com

Visual Artist and Educator with a collaborative, example-setting leadership approach. Outcome-driven problem solver with an energetic, detail-oriented working style. Thrives in a community-centric workplace where innovation, initiative, and efficiency are valued. Passionate about education, creative expression, equality, and community development.

## Professional Experience:

### Owner + Artist 2018 - Present

Claire Pongonis Studio

Visual Artist working in modern embroidery techniques, as well as oil pastel, gouache, and acrylic mediums. Teach visual art workshops. Offer design and creative content management for diverse clients. Produce ongoing and seasonal collections, as well as commissioned works. Manage the growth, financial aspects, marketing and ecological considerations of a thriving creative business.

### Creative Services Manager 2017 - 2021

Ryan Engineering, Inc.

Design and oversee corporate branding initiatives for marketing purposes and internal circulation. Develop and manage two corporate websites, create engaging content, and cultivate a strong online presence. Copywrite, edit, and design presentation decks and corporate documents.

### Assistant Preparator 2012 - 2014

Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art

Art handling, including transportation, rotation, packing, and unpacking of works for shipment, installation, maintenance, organization, and movement of stored works and vaults within a museum setting. Provided in-house matting and framing of works on paper and designed and constructed displays for exhibitions.

## Additional Professional Experience:

### Yoga Instructor 2017 - 2021

New Tribe Yoga Studio

Taught Hatha-based restorative yoga, meditation classes, and workshops emphasizing peak poses and breathwork techniques.

### Accounts Receivable Manager 2016 - 2021

Ryan Engineering, Inc.

Manage, track, and process 300 + projects annually, while communicating with staff and clients to ensure proper accounting and remittance of invoices. Provide support and redundancy for CFO and HR Manager.

### Driver Guide 2015 - 2016

HAP Alaska

Transportation and management of 50 individuals on motorcoaches while delivering narrated tours through the Alaskan wilderness.

## Selected Shows:

### *Beauty Shop: Unmasking the Glittering Facade,*

Assembly Biannual presented by Interform curated by Kennedie Daniels, Springdale, AR, 2023

### *Local Color Studio Gallery, 8th Anniversary*

*Show: Juried Exhibition,* Jurors: Frank Jacobus, Jeannie Hulen, and Octavio Logo, Fayetteville, AR, 2023  
Winner of Best in Show for *Roark*

### *Local Color Studio Gallery, 7th Anniversary*

*Show: Juried Exhibition,* Jurors: Laura Terry, Lakeisha Edwards, Shannon Dillard Mitchell, Fayetteville, AR, 2022

### *Where Color Meets,* Solo Show, Ozark Beer Company,

Rogers, AR, 2022

## Education & Study Intensives:

### *High Vibe Yoga Training,* Ubud, Bali, January 2017

200 Hour Hatha Yoga Teacher Training

### *John Brown University,* Siloam Springs, AR

Bachelor of Science in Fine Art and Illustration.

**Graduated May 2012**

### *Summer Intensive,* Berlin, Germany, Summer 2011

Sequential Art, Plein Air Oil Pastels, and Sketchbook  
Journaling courses studied through John Brown University

### *European Art History Tour*

Barcelona, Spain and London, England, Summer 2010

Art History course studied through John Brown University

## Relevant Skills:

### **Business Management**

Excellent Written & Verbal communication  
Project and Client Management

### **Computer & Software Fluency (Mac & PC)**

Adobe Creative Suite  
Procreate for Ipad  
Web Development: WordPress & Squarespace

### **Fine Art & Illustration**

Embroidery, Oil Pastel, Gouache, Acrylic  
Digital Illustration  
Teaching and Critique