

Fleisher Art Memorial

HART 420 Museum Studies Fieldwork Seminar
Spring 2026

Georgia Svoboda '26

Faculty Advisor: Monique Scott

Praxis Coordinator: Tiffany Stahl

Praxis Site Supervisors: Rachel Hsu & Gerard Silva

Background

Fleisher Art Memorial, located in South Philadelphia, is one of the oldest community arts centers in the United States. It was founded as the Graphic Sketch Club in 1898 by Samuel S. Fleisher and offered free art classes to adults and children of all backgrounds.

Today, Fleisher continues to offer tuition-free and low-cost classes to both children and adults and be a space where students can express themselves freely and celebrate art.

Contributions & Personal Growth

The majority of my work was in supporting the Young Artists Program (YAP). Every Saturday, I worked directly with students from ages 5-12 and guided them through lessons led by the teaching artists. I also was part of the planning of the Spring Open House to advertise upcoming summer and fall classes, helping greet new families and creating a press release. I also helped plan the student art exhibition at the end of the Spring Term.

Takeaways and Reflections

My experience at Fleisher allowed me to form meaningful connections with students and staff, engage directly with the local Philadelphia community, and gain a deeper understanding of how an education-focused nonprofit functions. I also became more confident in leading and being flexible, strengthening my interest in community engagement, education, and accessibility in museum spaces.



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