

amanda kowalski

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Education

2008 **BFA in Photography with a concentration in Sculpture**
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Courses: General Art Photo
Sculpture I and II; Intermediate Studio Problems and Lighting; Photo I,
Studio I and II; Drawing I and II; II, III and IV; Raw Photo;
Design I and II; Performance Art; View Camera; Alternative Photo
Writing with Video; Metals I and II; Processes; Photography Issues
Making and Meaning; Current Art Seminar; History of Photography
Issues Seminar; Art History of 20th
Century European Art; Art History of
Art Since 1940

2009 **School of the Art Institute of Chicago**
Continuing Education

Courses: Web Design I and II

Photographic Experience

8/2005 - 5/2008 **University of Illinois School of Art and Design, Champaign, IL**
Checkout Window Operator & Computer Help Desk Assistant

- Responsibilities: maintaining the computer lab and darkrooms as well as aiding students with problems and questions about software on Mac and PCs such as Photoshop, Illustrator, iMovie, Final Cut Pro, Flexcolor. Also assisted students with darkroom equipment, Canon EOS digital cameras, Panasonic camcorders (handheld and professional), professional audio equipment (shotgun microphones, marantz recorders) as well as film cameras such as Hasselblad, Mamiyas and 4x5 view cameras. Responsibilities also included checking equipment that is returned to the checkout window and assisting students to assess what equipment is best suited for them and their project.

2/2008 - 5/2008 **Buzz Magazine (Weekly Arts Paper), Champaign, IL**
Staff Photographer

- Responsibilities: Responding to weekly photo assignments including photographing local music awards, local artists, celebrities and fashion shows. Additional duties included contacting subjects, arranging photo shoots, editing photos in Photoshop and writing captions.

5/2004 -8/2004 **Ebert Studios (Portrait Photography), Oak Park, IL**
Photographer's Assistant

- Responsibilities: assisting the photographer on photo shoots in the studio and on-location, helping with the lighting as well as fixing RAW digital files for proofs. Also provided reception duties and clerical needs. In charge of archiving photos for future reprints and easy retrieval.

Work Experience

- 12/2008 - Present **Founders Insurance Company, Des Plaines, IL**
Scanning Representative
- Responsibilities: Prepping paperwork for scanning and indexing them into the company's system post-scan. Review old files, removing important documents for archival and shredding the rest. Also responsible for maintaining the office vending machines. This includes taking inventory, stocking machines and handling of money.
- 1/2005 - 9/2006
seasonally **Forest Agency Inc., Oak Park, IL**
Office Assistant
- Responsibilities: Maintained electronic filing system by archiving paper files to an easily accessible electronic format for the insurance agency. Was also on call receptionist and assisted office manager.

Group Exhibitions

- 2008 School of Art and Design BFA Graduate Exhibition Krannert Art Museum, Champaign, IL
- 2008 Framed: It Started Innocently Enough... 312 N. Walnut, Champaign, IL
- 2008 Tapas Y Photographias Radio Maria, Champaign, IL
- 2008 Justified Link Gallery, Champaign, IL
- 2007 A Painting Sculpture Show About Things Link Gallery, Champaign, IL
- 2007 Exposed Link Gallery, Champaign, IL
- 2007 P.S. (Painting Sculpture) Link Gallery, Champaign, IL
- 2006 Why Can't We Be A Family? Armory Free Theater, Champaign, IL
- 2006 Tell Me When... Link Gallery, Champaign, IL

Skills

- RAW format photographs
- Portable and studio quality strobe lights/speedatrons
- Canon EOS cameras: 1D, 5D, 10D, 20D and 40D
- Hasselblad and Mamiya medium format cameras
- 4" x 5" view cameras, and basic knowledge of 8" x 10" cameras
- Skilled in styling, assisting, setting up lights/equipment and directing photo shoots
- Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Dreamweaver and Flash
- Mac and Windows operating systems
- Microsoft Office and Excel

Volunteer Work

- 2003 - Current • **Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio, Oak Park, IL**
Docent, Tour Guide, including annual Wright Plus House Walk
- 2006 - Current • **Lollapalooza Music Festival, Chicago, IL**
Volunteer in Lost & Found, Info and Kids area
- 2008 - Current • **Village Players Theater, Oak Park, IL**
Usher, House Manager, Bartender
- 2003, 2006 and 2007 • **Special Events, Oak Park, Illinois**
Floating Volunteer during Oak Park's big Harry Potter Book Release Parties