

An **artist biography** is essentially a very brief summary of how you got to where you are in life. It generally consists of one to two paragraphs and is usually around one half of a page. A biography consists of information such as where you went to school, what degrees you have, when you earned them, if you've led any workshops or participated in any workshops, major exhibitions where your artwork has been exhibited and any major collections that your work is a part of. A biography is a quick summary of your resume.

A **resume** is a summary of your accomplishments as an artist. Within your resume you list basic information such as your contact information, education and background experiences related to art. More in-depth accomplishments can be included such as: workshops attended/conducted, exhibitions you have been in such as one person shows and group and juried shows, awards, honorariums, any important commissions, collections, and any related publications. Depending upon what the resume is being used for, it can be anywhere from one page to over 10 pages. Art resumes are different than basic job resumes. An art resume will be geared towards your career as an artist and a job resume will be used to apply for jobs. Your art resume works in conjunction with your portfolio packet.

The purpose of an **Artist Statement** is to make a statement, or summary, about your artwork, either in general or about specific pieces. It is an opportunity to tell the audience about the meaning behind the work, the materials used and issues that are being addressed without physically having to stand next to your work for the duration of the exhibition. You are not telling the viewer how to react or what to think about your work, but rather you are giving them a basic introduction to why you do what you do. You can change your artist statement as often as you like, catering it to the work being shown and the location of the exhibition.

An artist statement is an opportunity for you, as an artist, to talk about your work without having to be present. Generally, an artist statement is written in the first person and is anywhere from a paragraph to an entire page, but no more than a page; people will have a hard time paying attention to anything more than a page. Try to keep your statement on topic and to the point. Avoid using excessive amounts of technical terms that someone without art training will not understand.

You are not writing a novel and the viewer will become bored with anything longer than a page. Use common, everyday language. If you must use technical terms, make sure you explain them. If you use the same artist statement for a number of exhibitions, review it for each exhibition to make sure of its relevance to your current work.

Sample C.V. - Resume

Name: Jane Q. Smiles

Address: 8800 Grossmont College Drive. El Cajon, CA 92020

Phone: 619 644 7966

Email: jennifer.bennett@gcccd.edu (have a professional email)

Website: <http://www.grossmont.edu/people/jennifer-bennett/>

Education

MFA	2001	Painting	Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH Studio Art and Art History SACI, Florence, Italy
BA	1998	Painting	San Diego State University, San Diego, CA (cum laude)
AA	1995	Cross-Cultural-Studies,	Grossmont College, El Cajon, CA
	2013- 2015	Printmaking	Mesa College, San Diego, CA

Work Experience

2006- present Professor, Drawing and Painting, Grossmont College. El Cajon, CA

2004- 2006 Adjunct Instructor, Painting, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH

Exhibition Record

2014	Student Art Show, San Diego Mesa College Art Gallery, San Diego, CA
2007	OMA Regional 5: Oceanside Museum of Art Juried Exhibition, Oceanside, CA
2005	Del Mar Fair, San Diego, CA, photography award

Workshops

Attended: Mixed-media with Mathew Agcollicol
Given: Encaustic Painting Workshop in ART 299B

Publications

Acorn Review 2012

Bibliography

2006	Koppman, Debra. "Jennifer Bennett and Robin Bright." Artweek. December 2006, p. 25
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Professional Affiliations

College Art Association
Art and Design Club

Commissions Old Town Association

Collections Saatchi Collection

Gallery Representation Hyde Art Gallery

Awards

2012	Outstanding Service Award, Club Advisor
2015	Best in Show, Hyde Art Gallery

Fellowships Emerging Artist Residency Fellowship, Harpo Foundation, Santa Fe, NM

Internships Natural History Museum

Grants World Arts and Culture Committee