

# AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

**Interest Network:**

**Creative Arts**

**Lead Contact Person:** Michelle Thompson (Chair): Old Dominion University [mlthomps@odu.edu](mailto:mlthomps@odu.edu) (or [Boulangerml@vcu.edu](mailto:Boulangerml@vcu.edu)) and Tamara Shetron (Vice Chair) [tamara.shetron@txstate.edu](mailto:tamara.shetron@txstate.edu)

## 2022-2023 Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used. In addition, please note if/how any activities enhanced diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.

Objectives for 2022-2023:

- a) Expand membership and network member involvement
- b) Increase network visibility and collaboration
- c) Increase awareness of the critical role of creativity to promote inclusion and belonging for all people

Activities for 2022-2023:

1) Hosted **monthly steering committee meetings** to plan and prepare all member quarterly meetings, prepare for AAIDD conference symposium application, plan all-member theme-based meeting(s), discuss ways to expand our interest network, discuss possible future collaborations, and discuss ways to make our interest network more accessible and meaningful to artists with IDD.

2) Hosted (2) **all-member meetings** with theme-based short presentation and group discussion: Creativity is Everywhere for Everyone:

- **October 2022: Podcasting** -Jennifer Szweda

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/HuPODSIJZwojzCPJKaLBe1oOyPVg9dTF9\\_7z2cE401GmgF4L-GWZyFW\\_247YSxm.1ruoJuxol8p3tb9S](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/HuPODSIJZwojzCPJKaLBe1oOyPVg9dTF9_7z2cE401GmgF4L-GWZyFW_247YSxm.1ruoJuxol8p3tb9S) Passcode: WZwt\*5+L

- **March 2023: Inclusive Arts Practice Framework**- Yumi Shirai

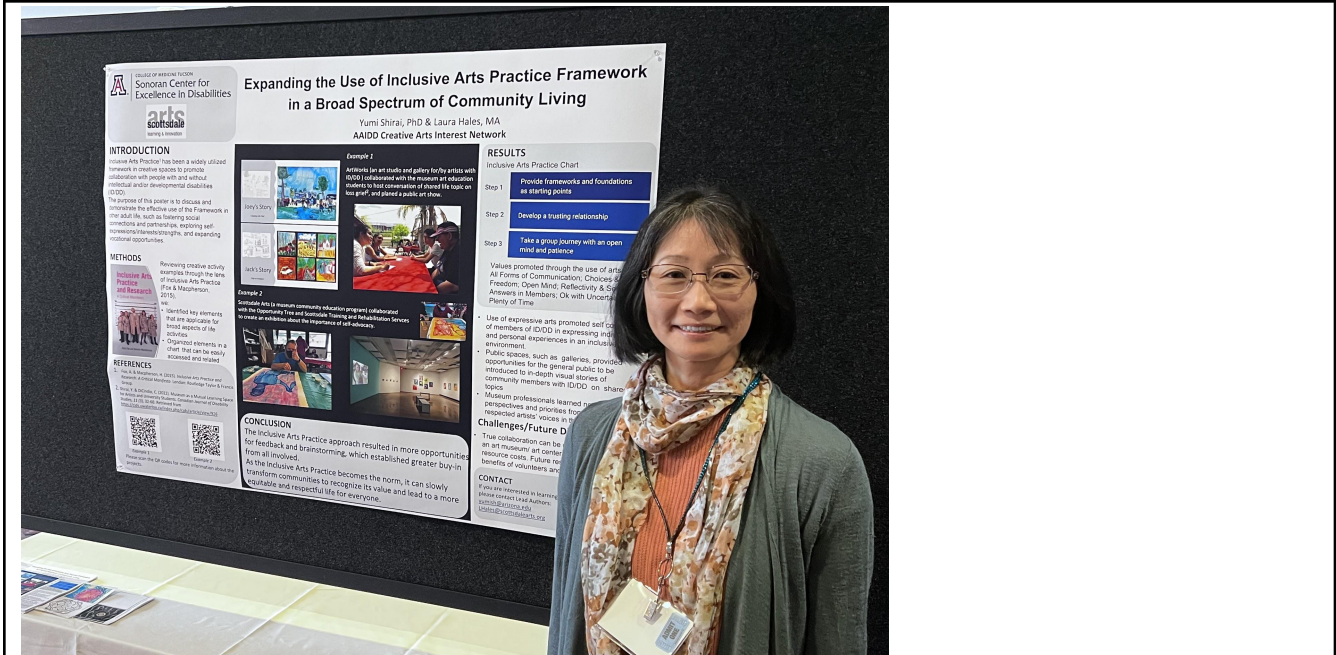
[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/j1dd-5h7wpvMRjwVkcNsLH1CBBImVom2Z4S4myW7g7UucXaI\\_D-qPCNjRssQcj.yL9a\\_vRc2vAjenvf](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/j1dd-5h7wpvMRjwVkcNsLH1CBBImVom2Z4S4myW7g7UucXaI_D-qPCNjRssQcj.yL9a_vRc2vAjenvf) Passcode: 1Cd&@L?%

3) **Research:** We prepared and submitted an AAIDD conference symposium application. In collaboration with the IN members, we developed a symposium proposal with three individual papers. Our intent of this symposium was to create a space for group sharing and discussion on how creativity can contribute to varied aspects of our lives. However, we were instead accepted to present 3 separate posters: The connecting theme of our 3 posters is “Promoting Creative Inclusive Practices through the Lens of UDL.”

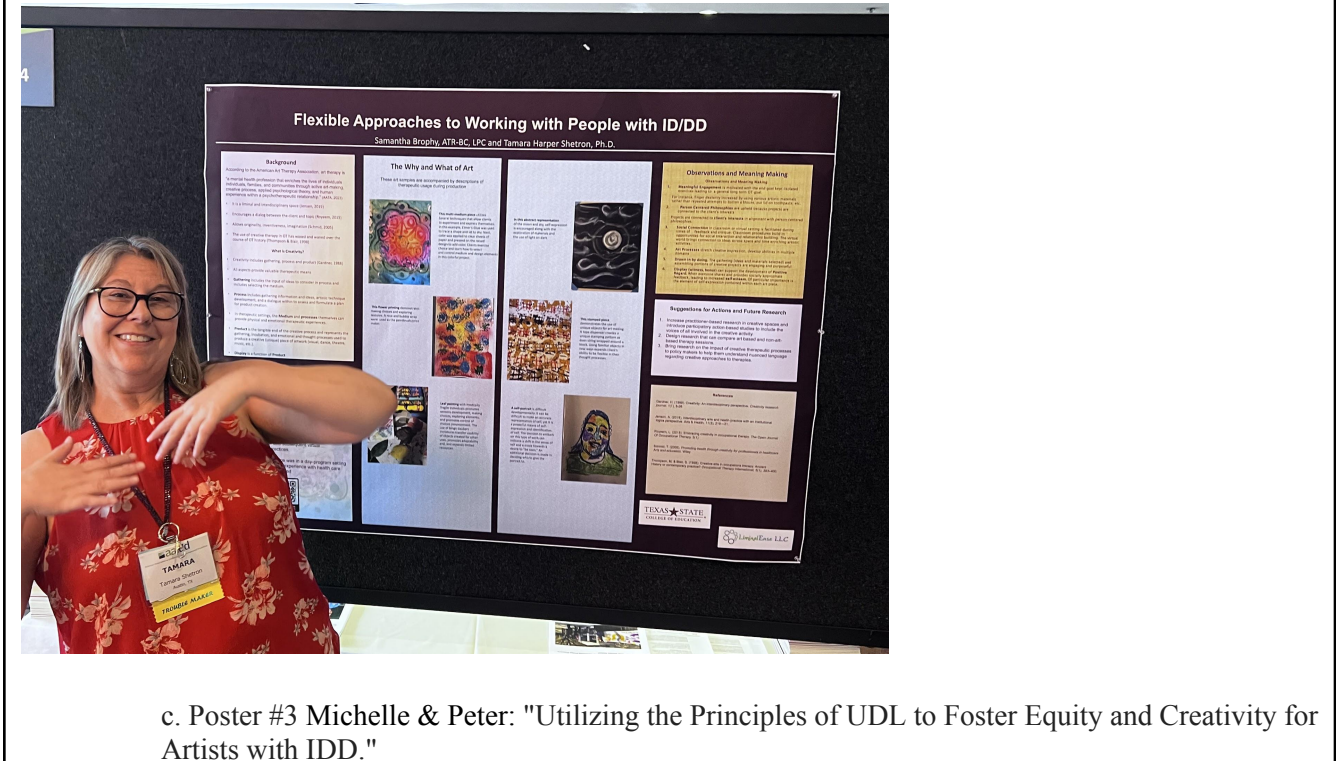
- a. Poster #1 Yumi & Laura: "Expanding the Use of Inclusive Arts Practice Framework in a Large Spectrum of Community Living."

Due July 14, 2023

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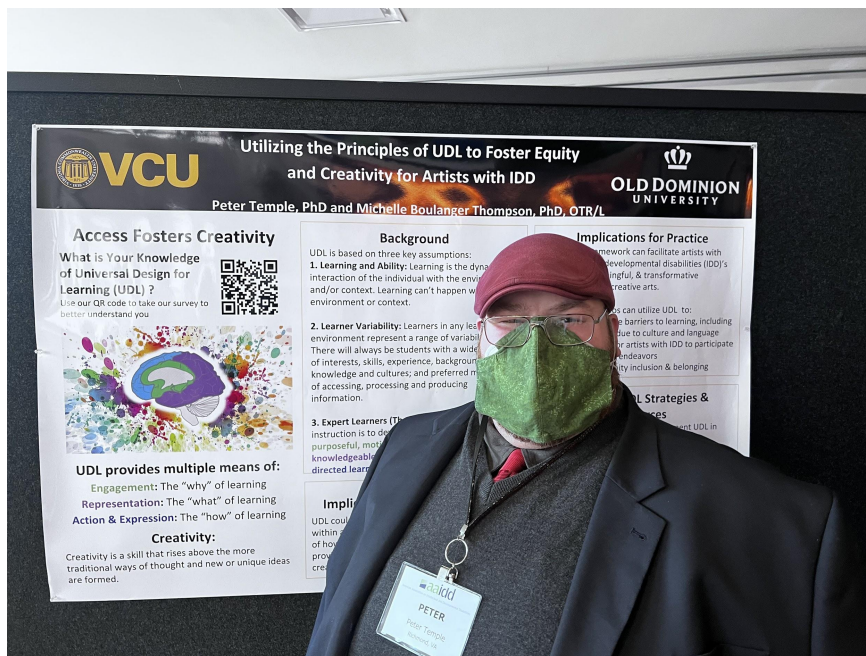
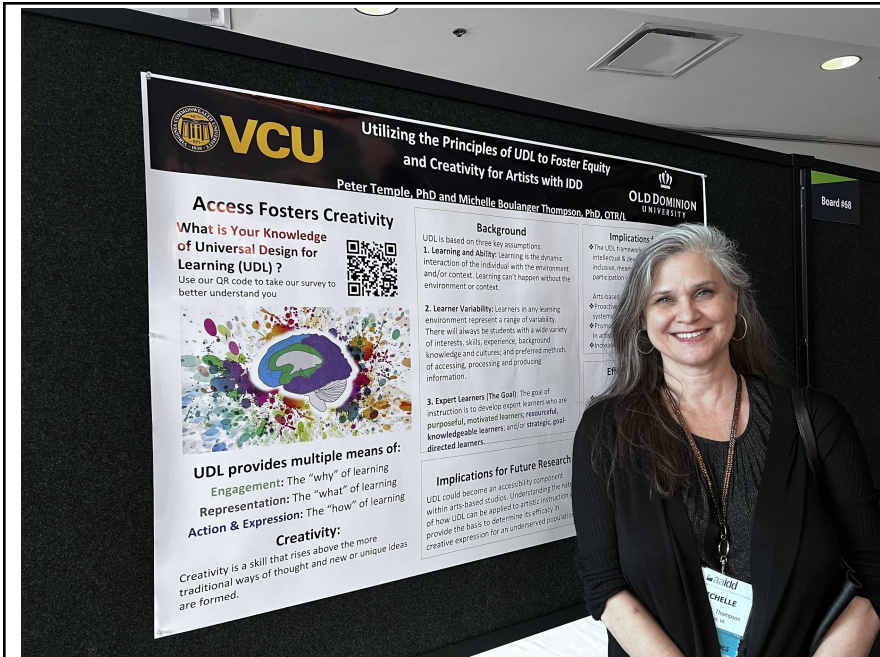


b. Poster #2 Tami & Sam: "Flexible Approaches Supporting People with IDD in Creative Spaces Translate to Practical Arenas."



c. Poster #3 Michelle & Peter: "Utilizing the Principles of UDL to Foster Equity and Creativity for Artists with IDD."

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4) Grant: AAIDD general memberships plus Creative Arts IN Membership Scholarships (\$100 each). Of the five memberships to community art studio memberships provided in 2022, two reported continued participation and renewal of memberships will be paid by their employers, two are no longer participating members (due to changes in their employment), and one elected to pay their own dues to AAIDD (but elected to participate in another interest network). Two membership scholarships will be paid by AAIDD Creative Arts in 2023.

5) We have started to develop a database of creative arts studios (inclusive, progressive, etc..) in the US and internationally.

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6) 6/7 Executive board members elected in 2022 will continue in service:

We have seven members/positions in the executive team who will help support the overall strategic planning and tasks of the Creative Arts IN, with 1 open position as of July 2023:

- a) Chair: Michelle Thompson
- b) Vice Chair/Research: Tamara Shetron
- c) Secretary/Treasurer: Laura Hales
- d) Social Media: Sam Brophy
- e) Innovation/Information: OPEN 2023
- f) Membership/Communication: Anna Mumford
- g) Advisory Mentor: Yumi Shirai

7) We are now in the analysis phase of our research conducting research (mixed method: surveys and interviews) with creative arts organizations which provide services to people with IDD, asking about their technology use, and impact as well as lessons learned from the COVID-19.

8) Social Media

- Website: <http://aiddcreativearts.com/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/221768532011107>

## 2023-2024 Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds. In addition, please note if/how any activities will address diversity, equity, inclusion, or justice.

Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the coming year (July 1, 2023 -June 30, 2024), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

Objectives for 2023-2024:

- a) Continue to expand membership and network member involvement
- b) Continue to increase Creative Arts network visibility and collaboration (within AAIDD and in the wider IDD and Arts communities)
- c) Increase Creative Arts network collaboration with other AAIDD interest networks (i.e. Spirituality, Gerontology, Health & Wellness, Technology)
- d) Increase awareness of the critical role of creativity to promote inclusion and belonging for all people
- e) Include and amplify voices of artists with IDD in the Creative Arts network

Proposed Activities for 2023-2024:

- 1) Host monthly steering committee meetings to plan and prepare all member quarterly meetings .
- 2) Submit conference symposium proposal/s (AAIDD, other conferences such as AERA or AUCD). Topics to address the importance of creativity and creative arts in the lives of people with IDD.
- 3) Host 2-3 all-member Creative Arts IN meetings with theme-based short presentation and group discussion on topics related to creative arts
  - a. Invite wider AAIDD membership to attend to learn about the impact of creativity and creative arts in the lives of artists with IDD.
  - b. Topics for 2023-24
    1. "Artists' Rights" (to be presented by Yumi & Laura)

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2. Mindfulness & Nature (to be presented by Anna)
3. “Artists’ Voice, representation, and self-advocacy through the arts” (we need someone to present this topic)
- 3) Develop a database of creative arts studios (inclusive, progressive, etc..) in the US and internationally.
- 5) Reach out to self-advocates to include their representation, voice, and self-advocacy in our Creative Arts network (meetings, websites, presentations)
- 6) Ensure our Creative Arts network is inclusive and accessible by working towards implementing the following in our meetings, websites, presentations:
  1. Plain Language
  2. Accessible technology
  3. Presented by people with IDD
  4. Possible subcommittee of people with IDD to run ideas by
- 7) Explore the possibility of starting a Creative Arts Journal