

Lisa L. Naas, PhD

Arts Leader, Creative Practitioner, Innovator, Educator
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United States

- ✉ **Experienced arts and community leader** comfortable overseeing and collaborating with diverse groups of people
- ✉ **Accomplished fundraiser** skilled in grant writing, annual fund campaigns, major gifts, planned giving, and events
- ✉ **Career arts/non-profit administrator** with extensive experience also in operations, management, marketing, planning
- ✉ **Skilled programs director** with a record of successful, perspective-shifting programming and public engagement
- ✉ **Creative practitioner** working in glass at the intersection of genres and media; exhibiting internationally
- ✉ **Adept arts educator** enabling inclusivity and accessibility, while maintaining a holistic teaching philosophy
- ✉ **Interdisciplinary researcher** of ideation and creativity; PhD thesis submitted/accepted as ‘post-studio glass’

Key Leadership Roles in Creative, Cultural, and Educational Organizations.....

Executive Director: Newburyport Art (NAA), Newburyport, Massachusetts 2021–2024

- ✉ Led the art and programs direction; provided fundraising/outreach leadership, budget/staff oversight, strategic planning
- ✉ Implemented new mission-driven initiatives including membership database conversion, new annual Arts Symposium
- ✉ Key achievements: curated the *Glass Perspectives* exhibition (NAA’s first international show); directed most successful Art Auction & Party in NAA history; launched a multi-pronged development program with NAA’s 75th anniversary
- ✉ Spearheaded *NBPT Murals Project*, a collaborative city-wide initiative to engage community through exterior murals
- ✉ Lead efforts to renovate and maintain the organization’s 260-year-old building with 5 galleries and sculpture garden
- ✉ Directed post-Covid rebuilding and re-opening of NAA physical galleries, exhibitions, and educational offerings

Initiator & Director: Makers Marks Collaborative, Edinburgh College of Art, Scotland 2015–2019

- ✉ Wrote project and grant proposals to secure a 2015 ‘Ingenious Grant’ from the UK’s Royal Academy of Engineering
- ✉ Recruited and led a diverse, international team of 20 visual artists, sound designers, composers, and engineers in collaboratively creating and executing multi-media art projects based around glass in Edinburgh studios (and remotely)
- ✉ Led the artistic direction and goals of the Collaborative to produce a glass/sound interactive installation, glass objects, a library of recorded audio/virtual instruments, a music composition, 2 films, and a peer-reviewed journal article
- ✉ Curated the artistic works and oversaw logistics and promotion for exhibitions and community engagement events

Instructor & Project Leader: Edinburgh College of Art, Scotland, 2016–2018

- ✉ Instructed university students in art and design project conception, development, implementation, and thesis writing

Director, Operations & Student Life: Boston University Tanglewood Institute, Boston/Lenox 2008–2014

- ✉ Directed preparation and operation of a 64-acre campus with 5 dormitories and 7 academic buildings, to support an internationally-renowned, college-credited, classical music summer training program in the Berkshires (Massachusetts)
- ✉ Oversaw a \$750,000 budget, residential life programming, student services, and housing for 350 student participants
- ✉ Recruited, hired, and trained a team of 25 people every year to assist with daily operations and residence life
- ✉ Found, leased, and managed 35+ properties (annually) to relocate/house 100+ faculty/staff and myself for summers
- ✉ Collaborated with university departments and external organizations for key achievements: partnered with Jacob’s Pillow for an innovative student program (2013), hosted 1Berkshires ‘Celebrate the Berkshires’ (2012), secured in-kind donation of rehearsal space (2011), renovated dining services (2010), implemented new student health services (2009)

Development & Special Events Manager: Archaeological Institute of America (AIA), Boston 2001–2007

- ✉ Directed the Annual Fund Program and all national special events (public and private) for fundraising purposes
- ✉ Designed and implemented an annual, traveling event as a unique outreach effort to bring youth together with renowned archaeologists, experts, and museum educators for interactive, hands-on, educational activities/experiences

Education.....

- ✉ **PhD (2022)** Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh, UK
- ✉ **MFA, Glass (With Distinction 2015)** Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh, UK
- ✉ **MEd (2000)** Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
- ✉ **BA (Studio Art/Art History, cum laude 1996)** Carleton College, Northfield, Minnesota, USA
- ✉ **Other Education:** Pilchuck Glass School, USA (2012), Diablo Glass School, USA (2006, 2008–2010)

Exhibition Highlights: Artistic Direction & Curation.....

- 2023. *Journeying Well: Artistic Pathways*, group exhibition at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2023. *Scenes of Newburyport: Celebrating 75 Years of Supporting Art in Our Community*, group exhibition at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2022. *Celebrating the Laura Coombs Hills Gallery: Floral Pastels & Miniatures*, group exhibition at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2022. *Glass Perspectives: A Celebration of Glass & Glass Concepts*, international group exhibition at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2022. *21st Annual Art Auction Exhibition*, group exhibition and Auction at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2022. *Love is Love*, group exhibition at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2022. *Celebrating Access Through Glass Innovation: Smartphone Photography*, group exhibition at Newburyport Art, USA
- 2016. *A Makers Marks Network Event*, exhibition and speaker event presented at Summerhall, Edinburgh, UK
- 2016. *Makers Marks*, exhibition of Ingenious Grant outputs at Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, UK

Exhibition Highlights: Participation.....

- 2023. *Extreme Making*, exhibition of the European Academy of Design Conference, Glasgow, Scotland, UK
- 2021. *Viral Glass*, juried/curated by David McFadden, group exhibition presented virtually by Habatat Galleries, USA
- 2018. *Materiality*, juried group exhibition by RAFT research group at Tent Gallery, Edinburgh, UK (catalogue)
- 2017. *Radiophrenia*, broadcast from Centre for Contemporary Arts, Glasgow, UK
- 2017. *Research Through Design Exhibition*, presented at National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, UK
- 2016. *A Makers Marks Network Event*, exhibition and speaker event presented at Summerhall, Edinburgh, UK
- 2016. *Makers Marks*, exhibition of Ingenious Grant outputs at Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, UK
- 2016. *Glasshaus XI*, juried group exhibition, presented at Parndon Mill Gallery, Harlow, UK
- 2016. *ECA Transitions*, juried group exhibition, presented at Edinburgh College of Art, UK
- 2015. *MOVE ME*, film festival presented at Embassy Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2015. *New Designers 2015*, presented at Business Design Centre, London, UK
- 2015. *Degree Show 2015*, presented at Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, UK
- 2014–2015. *European Glass Experience*, juried, traveling exhibition presented by Culture Program of European Union (catalogue)
 - 18 April 2015–7 June 2015, The Murano Glass Museum, Venice, IT
 - 29 July 2014–15 November 2014, Fundación Centro Nacional del Vidrio, La Granja, ES
- 2014. *International Glass Art Biennial*, juried group exhibition, Kunststichting Perspektief, Haacht, BE (catalogue)
- 2014. *Emerge 2014*, finalist in juried competition; exhibition presented at Bullseye Glass, Oregon, USA (catalogue)
- 2011. *Bibliophoria II: The Art of the Book*, juried group exhibition, presented at Sebastopol Art Center, California, USA
- 2010. *Handle with Care*, juried group exhibition, presented at The Foundry Art Centre, Missouri, USA

Collections.....

- ☞ Murano Glass Museum, Venice, Italy
 - Mourning Lace* (2013, kiln-formed glass) 2014 museum acquisition during European Glass Experience exhibit
- ☞ Private Collection, USA and UK
 - Flight Gesture Pair* (2021, kiln-formed glass), 2021 acquisition during Bergstrom-Mahler Museum Auction
 - Moth* (2022, kiln-formed glass), 2022 acquisition during Bergstrom-Mahler Museum Auction
 - Minerva* (2022, kiln-formed glass), 2023 acquisition during Bergstrom-Mahler Museum Auction

Selected Artist Bibliography.....

- ☞ Contemporary Glass Society (2020) *Glass Network: 'Portfolio of Inspiration'*. Norfolk: Micropress, (77) p. 12
- ☞ RAFT (2019) *Material Fluidity*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh College of Art, p. 9
- ☞ Edinburgh College of Art Glass Alumni (2018) *Transition*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh College of Art, pp. 48–49
- ☞ EGE (2015) *European Glass Experience*. City of Venice and Consorzio Promovetro Murano, pp. 114 & 165
- ☞ Kunststichting Perspektief (2014) *International Glass Art Biennial*. Haacht, Belgium, p. 29
- ☞ Bullseye Glass, Co. (2014) *emerge 2014*. Portland, Oregon, p. 36

Awards.....

- ☞ Principal's Career Development PhD Scholarship, University of Edinburgh, 2015–2018
- ☞ Global Research Scholarship, University of Edinburgh, 2015–2018
- ☞ Ingenious Grant recipient for 'The Glass Whispers Project', Royal Academy of Engineering, 2015–2016
- ☞ New Designer's Glass Prize Runner-Up for *SORROWS* film, Contemporary Glass Society, 2015
- ☞ Andrew Grant Major Award, Edinburgh College of Art, 2014
- ☞ John L Paterson Postgraduate Design Scholarship, Edinburgh College of Art, 2014
- ☞ Finalist in Bullseye Glass 'Emerge 2014' competition sponsored by Bullseye Glass, Co., 2014
- ☞ Finalist in European Glass Experience competition supported by the Culture Program, European Union, 2013

Teaching Experience.....

Tutor, Design & Screen Cultures for 4th Year Dissertation Students, Edinburgh College of Art, 2017–2018

- ☞ Supervised 12 Undergraduate, Honours, Design students undertaking year-long projects and 6,000-word theses
- ☞ Delivered small group tutorials, individual tutorials, and a formal lecture; assessed and provided feedback for one formative draft submission and one summative submission per student

Project Developer/Tutor, ‘after the storm’ project, Glass Department, Edinburgh College of Art 2016–2017

- ☞ Co-led a year-long, interdisciplinary, collaborative project between 21 students & Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
- ☞ Developed the group concept, delivered small group tutorials, and prepped the students/projects for exhibition

Guest Lecturer, ‘Digital Crafting in Glass’ Course, Edinburgh College of Art, 28 March and 4 April 2017

- ☞ Delivered two formal lectures on interdisciplinary practice and digital technologies within art and design practice
- ☞ Taught/workshopped a design for a creative process ideation tool to aid 22 undergraduates starting new projects

Developer/Leader, ‘Play with Fire: Glass Concepts’, Innovative Learning Week, Edinburgh, February 2016

- ☞ Developed and marketed the course concept as part of Innovative Learning Week to the University community
- ☞ Workshopped an ideation tool, lectured on the history of glass, and taught glass basics to 23 University students

Research Experience.....

Doctoral Research (2015–2021) Edinburgh College of Art, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom

- ☞ Thesis title: *Association in Creative Idea Generation: A Black Box Dissertation Staged in Lyric Inquiry and Glass Concepts*, available as a compressed PDF: <https://era.ed.ac.uk/handle/1842/38635>
available as a digital artist’s book: <https://www.inconcertwithglass.com/copy-of-black-box-dissertation-in-gla>
- ☞ Research explored word and concept association in creative idea generation; studied university student glass ideation
- ☞ Thesis is designed as a creative, non-traditional dissertation and presented as a work of post-studio glass: it is creatively written (with lyric lines opposite traditional academic text) and designed as an artist’s book
- ☞ Research outputs include a new technique for generating ideas, a written theory of creative idea generation, a book of lyric writing, a book of creative practice ideas, and art and design objects and projects
- ☞ Examiners: Prof. Chris Speed, Prof. Clare Twomey; Supervisors: Dr. Sophia Lycouris, Dr. Jessamy Kelly, Geoff Mann

Refereed Publications.....

Naas, L. (2023) ‘Forwarding Glass Education: My PhD Thesis is Post-Studio Glass’, *Journal of the Glass Art Society*

Naas, L. and Faleris, D. (2019) ‘Makers Marks: Capturing, Preserving, and Sharing the Sounds of Glassmaking’. [online] *Arts* 2019 (8), 1 available from: <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-0752/8/1/19>. DOI: 10.3390/arts8010019

Naas, L. (2017) ‘Makers Marks: Glass in Translation’ in: Proceedings of the 3rd Biennial Research Through Design Conference, 22–24 March 2017, Edinburgh, UK, Article 05, pp. 65–81. DOI: 10.6084/m9.figshare.4746943
https://figshare.com/articles/Makers_Marks_Glass_in_Translation/4746943

Other Publishing.....

Naas, L. (2024) *In Concert With Glass* [online] available from <https://www.inconcertwithglass.com/>

Naas, L. (2022) *Association in Idea Generation: A Black Box Dissertation Staged in Lyric Inquiry and Glass Concepts*. PhD Thesis <https://era.ed.ac.uk/handle/1842/38635> Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh

Naas, L. (2020) ‘Embodiment’. in *Waves: A Confluence of Women’s Voices*. New Mexico: AROHO Foundation

Naas, L. (2019) ‘With Maraschino Cherries’. *The Inkwell: Borderline* (19), 20–23

Naas, L. (2015) ‘Not Easily Articulated: The Language of Artistic Collaboration’. *Glass Network* (57), 13

Select Presentations.....

2023. Artist Presenter for ‘Books and Resistance Symposium’ (virtual presenter), Centre for the Book, New Zealand

2023. Artist Lecturer for Glass Art Society Conference (Detroit, MI) with talk ‘My PhD Thesis is Post-Studio Glass’

2022. Artist Presenter for Newburyport Art (Newburyport, MA) with talk ‘Celebrating Access’

2021. Presenter for X-disciplinary Congress on Artistic Research (virtual presenter), Vilnius Academy, Lithuania

2018. Guest Presenter/Design Consultant for Edinburgh MasterCard Scholars Design Day, Edinburgh

2017. Paper Presenter and Exhibitor at Research Through Design Conference, National Museum, Edinburgh

2016. Presenter at ‘Time to Share’ workshop of Northlands Glass Conference, Edinburgh College of Art