

ELSHA LEVENTIS

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RESUME

- Jan 2012 – present **Instructor, Toronto Art Therapy Institute**
Teach course on Art Therapy, Spirituality, Grief and Loss, twice per year.
Currently designing online course for Distance Learning program for fall 2015.
Reader for theses.
- Nov 2009 – Mar 2014 **Wellspring Cancer Support Foundation: Downtown Centre
Manager/Program Coordinator (retired)**
Managed a busy non-profit centre that offers emotional and coping support to
cancer patients and their families, including program coordination of 48
programs, interviewing and overseeing leaders and volunteers, providing help
including support to members, liaising with hospital staff, managing facility.
- Jan 2001 – Nov 2012 **Wellspring Cancer Support Centre: Volunteer.** Co-facilitated bereavement
groups; provided regular front desk support and reception in a busy environment,
including answering multi-line phones and registering participants in courses and
support groups; trained volunteers; participated in community outreach; provided
support for people diagnosed with cancer and their caregivers.
- Apr 2008 – Jan 2011 **Therapy Through the Arts: Chair, Therapy Advisory Committee.**
Coordinated seven art therapy programs, rewrote Strategic Plan and Case for
Support, wrote and edited contracts, recruited committee members, organized
fundraising events, designed and wrote promotional materials, met with potential
client agencies, and sat on board.
- Fall 2003 - present **Private Psychotherapy and Art Therapy.** Provide individual and group
psychotherapy and art therapy; conducted intake interviews and assessments.
Designed and led reflective practice workshops for adult caregivers and collage
workshops for young adults on career choice.
- May 2002 - present **Professional visual artist.** Represented by several galleries in Canada and the
US, art has been juried and shown in various venues, including the Artist
Project, Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, the Interior Design Show, and Toronto
Art Expo, *Style At Home*, and *Canadian House and Home*, and is in collections
globally.
- Oct 2006 - Sept 2007 **Onsite Specialists: Art Therapist.** Conducted group and individual art therapy
in long-term care facilities with cognitively impaired adults and seniors.
- Oct 2003 - June 2005 **Toronto District School Board: Art Therapist.** Provided individual art therapy
to children, implemented programs, assessed clients, met with staff and parents,
tailored sessions to accommodate individual needs, prepared weekly reports.
- Jan - June 2003 **Children's Aid Society: Art Therapist.** Provided art therapy to boys with
behavioural challenges. Responsibilities included implementing art therapy
programming, preparing reports, meeting with agency staff.

1995 - present **Freelance Editor and Proofreader.** Edit books, annual reports, theses.

Aug 1991 - June 1995 **Stoddart Publishing Co. Ltd.: Assistant Editor and Children's Book Editor.**

Jan 1990 - Oct 1990 **Ministry of Culture and Communications: Secretary to Minister.**

Sept 1989 - Jan 1990 **Ministry of Culture and Communications: Engagements Coordinator.**

Prior to Jan 1990 Edited newsletters, coordinated two conferences for CANSCAIP (Canadian Society of Children's Authors, Illustrators and Performers), and organized the official opening of the Canadian Children's Book Centre.

Other Experience: **Ontario Art Therapy Association.** Presented workshop on art therapy with children suffering loss, April 2005.

EDUCATION

2006 **Toronto Art Therapy Institute:** Diploma in Art Therapy

2003 **Transformational Arts College:** Diploma Spiritual Psychotherapy

2002 **Ontario College of Art and Design:** AOCAD degree in Drawing and Painting,

Prior to 2002 **Ryerson University:** Certificate in Publishing

University of Toronto: Diploma in Translation

University of Toronto: Bachelor of Arts

Workshops and trainings, including brief therapy (Hincks-Dellcrest), art courses at the Art Gallery of Ontario, art therapy conferences and workshops.

AWARDS and MEMBERSHIPS

Awards: **Martin Fischer Award** for best thesis, Toronto Art Therapy Institute
Marsh Jeanneret Award for excellence in editing, Ryerson University
First Prize Colour and Form Society juried art show, 2002

Memberships: **Canadian Art Therapy Association, Professional Member**

OTHER SKILLS and INTERESTS

Languages: English, French, Dutch, Greek, and Spanish, editing
Interests: Art, reading, travel, theatre, music.