

ADAJA COOPER

Little Rock, Arkansas • +1 501-516-9517 • adajacooper@gmail.com

Education

Hendrix College, 2023

Studio Art Major with Distinction, Business Minor
Hendrix Aspire Scholar, Murphy Scholar in Literature and Language

Conway, AR

Little Rock Central High School, 2019

Graduated with Honors

Little Rock, AR

Experiences

Museum Associate in Exhibition Design and Curatorial Asst., 2019- 2023

Windgate Museum, Conway, AR

- Designed and developed engaging museum exhibitions, managed loan agreements with other museums and artists, and translated curatorial visions into impactful and interactive experiences for visitors.

Dark Room Monitor, 2021-2022

Hendrix College, Conway, AR

- Monitored and maintained the college darkroom facilities, ensuring safe and proper use of photographic equipment and chemicals. Provided technical assistance to students and faculty in the darkroom, and troubleshooted photographic processes.

Projects

2023 Thomas J. Watson Fellow, July 2023- July 2024

- Secured a \$40,000 grant to create and document empowering murals in England, Northern Ireland, Italy and Senegal. Led collaborative projects with dozens of artists, planned and executed art events and understood how communities can benefit from public art.

Prison Portrait Project, 2022

- Participated in an exhibition by painting a portrait of incarcerated people to uplift inmates looking to make a change in their lives.

Seventh Street Murals, 2020-present

- Worked alongside artists in Little Rock to create empowering murals, helped organize and plan community events and fundraising.

Elizabeth Eckford Bench Project, 2017-2019

- Project manager for the Bench Project and managed civic projects related to my school's history, helped organize appearances for guest speakers, fundraising and architectural designs

Activities

Art Club President, 2021-2023: Managed a budget to support club activities and promote student art and events

Revolutionary Reads Book Club, 2021-2023: Curated and hosted a book club on social justice movements, promoting community dialogue and empowering participants.

Hendrix College Chapter of the NAACP President, 2021-2023: Spearheaded the chapter advocating for social justice through fundraisers, coat drives, volunteering for the homeless and panel discussions.

Our Voices Art Facilitator, 2022: Facilitated artistic expression for student-led magazine, fostering creativity and collaboration through personalized monthly activities and discussions.

Awards

Elizabeth Eckford Bench Project: Awarded regional EAST Conference award for my leadership and bench design, which received national recognition from leaders and the Little Rock Nine.

Dr. Alice Hines Award, 2023: Awarded for excellence in multicultural leadership and service throughout my years at Hendrix College.

CAFTA Award, 2022: Awarded Outstanding Student Achievement Award in the college division in Conway, AR.

Aonian Visual Arts Competition, 2022: Awarded 1st place award for Hendrix College's literary magazine.

References

Amanda Cheatham, WMA Museum Designer (501) 328-2386

Maxine Payne, Hendrix College Professor (501) 450- 4587

Audrey Taylor, Oley E. Rooker Manager (501) 907-5991