

Alexa LoPresti Cover Letter

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To my potential future administrators,

On June 11th, 2024, I received my Visual Arts Initial Certification to teach in the State of New York, upon completion of the Post-Baccalaureate Art Education program at CUNY Queens College. I am continuing my education at QCC, working towards the final 9 credits needed to receive my MAT.

While simultaneously working toward my certification/degree, I've been assisting the teachers and students at P.S. 32Q as a Paraprofessional since December 2021. I've gained experience and pedagogical knowledge while working with a variety of students in Gen Ed, ICT, and Self-Contained classrooms. I take pride in the relationships and rapport I create with my students as a 1:1 Para (crisis and health) and as a classroom Para. Additionally, I assist teachers by pulling small groups to review sight words, practicing literacy using Foundations, and reteaching math strategies. I also utilize my creative skills to help teachers design instructional materials and set up visually engaging classroom environments.

Stemming from my positive attitude and motivational energy, I choose to go above and beyond what is expected of my job title. These extracurriculars include bulletin board design, assisting with schools plays (costume creation, set design, hair/makeup, etc.), creating educational charts for students, capturing/editing videos of school activities, volunteering for afterschool clubs, and more.

Prior to my career in education, I spent nearly a decade studying the arts, which began with my acceptance to Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School in Manhattan, where I majored in fine arts. This experience allowed me to explore many art mediums including ceramics, painting, dark-room photography, fashion, graphic design, and more. I chose to continue studying fashion in Manhattan at the Fashion Institute of Technology. After receiving my AAS degree, I changed my major to pursue a career in Advertising, which stemmed from my love for graphic design and branding. This change resulted in a second AAS degree in Communication Design and a BFA in Advertising Design. During my last year at FIT, I began an internship as an Art Director at a prestigious Advertising agency called Avrett Free Ginsberg where I was hired full time. I spent the next 5 years conceptualizing TV commercials, designing print and mobile ads, and creating strong social media presence for a variety of brands including, but not limited to, Blistex, Fancy Feast, Beggin', Summer's Eve, Monistat, and Clear Eyes.

Even as a passionate Art Director, I couldn't help but feel like something was missing. On my path to serving a bigger purpose, I chose to retire my career in Advertising to instead touch the lives of children through the arts.

The difference I've made as a Paraprofessional is vast, but subordinate compared to my potential as an art educator. I truly appreciate your consideration to add me to your team of life-changers! Please don't hesitate to reach out for information or recommendations— I look forward to speaking to you.

Thank you,

Alexa LoPresti