



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**
SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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Ashley H Pollock, Public Relations & Information Coordinator
College of Performing and Visual Arts
Southern Utah University

Office: (435) 865-8667
Cell: (435) 590-0961
pollocka@suu.edu

Using Design to Better Community with Melissa Delzio

Written by Tracy Solimeno

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: SUU's Department of Art & Design welcomes, graphic designer and illustrator, Melissa Delzio as an Art Insights speaker Thursday, December 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA). Delzio will be sharing her professional knowledge and experience in print and interactive work for international brands, local businesses, nonprofits and educational institutions. Admission is free and open to the public.

Deeply committed to passing on stories and experience to future generations, Delzio, founded *Our Portland Story* in 2008. This publication celebrates the beauties and characteristics of the Portland area through the collaboration of 140 authors and illustrators. In 2009, she established Meldel, an independent design firm that specializes in print and interactive design. Her work is free drawn, spontaneous, and illustrative.

She currently serves as an adjunct instructor at Portland State University and Volunteer Creative Director at p:ear, a Portland-based organization that offers homeless youth a safe space, education, art, recreation, job training, and food. She has travelled internationally with USAID Partners of the Americas to volunteer her design services in Haiti and Colombia.

In an interview with Design Feaster, Delzio said, "As an independent designer, side projects are crucial. The most obvious reason is that they give you a creative outlet to express ideas through a different medium. You become free to make mistakes, take risks, and practice new skills. One of the best ways to get the type of paying work you want is to do the work for yourself first, and share it with the world."

Benjamin Kirkby, Assistant Professor of Graphic Design at Southern Utah University feels that, "Melissa Delzio's artistry, along with her dedication towards using her talents to embolden others makes her an excellent role model for students and professionals alike. Her collaborative work seeks to strengthen her community and make it a friendlier place to live. She is one of those rare individuals who wields her incredible talent to make the world a better place instead of focusing on expanding a business."

Art Insights is hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU's Art & Design faculty. Students and community members meet to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights.

See how to foster community with individual talents and skills through the eyes of designer Melissa Delzio. For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited programs in Art & Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 26 academic programs, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU's Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

For Calendar Editors: Using Design to Better Community with Melissa Delzio

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Who: Art Insights, Southern Utah University, Department of Art & Design

When: Thursday, December 7, 2017

Time: 7:00 PM

Where: Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S 300 W, Cedar City, Utah

Tickets: Free admission, General Public invited to attend

Info: For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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