

Fine Art Credentials for Valerie A. Cooper

Professional Education

New York University Appraisal Studies in Fine and Decorative Arts Program

Courses completed towards certification through January 2008 include:

1. Successfully completed a 15-hour course and exam on the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice (USPAP), the Congressionally-recognized set of appraisal standards promulgated by The Appraisal Foundation. Completed in Dec 2007, effective through Dec. 2012. – Victor Wiener and Gayle Skluzacek
2. IRS Legal Guidelines in Valuation of Fine and Decorative Arts – Helena Addison
3. The Heart of the Matter: Legal and Ethical Aspect of Appraising, Victor Wiener
4. Appraisal Writing Workshop – Jane Willis
5. The Fine Art of Print Making – Nigel Freeman/Todd Weyman, Swann Galleries
6. Creating Public and Private Art Collections – Helene Xucker-Seeman
7. Contemporary Curatorial Practice – Lia Gangitano
8. Japanese Woodblock Prints – Talbert Fox

Academic Education

Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland B.S., Summa Cum Laude

Columbia University, New York, NY M.B.A., COGME Fellow Designation

Norwalk Community College School of Languages, Norwalk, CT – Pursuing Certificate in Spanish

Business Affiliations

Travelers, Stamford, CT. Cultural Fine Art Advisor: Effective Jan 2008 – Present

Stamford Center for the Arts, Stamford, CT. Director of Curatorial Services: 2007 - Present

General Electric, Fairfield, CT. Curator of Cultural Exhibitions for Headquarters: 2006 – Present

Picture That, Stamford, CT. Owner and President: 2002 – Present

Goldman, Sachs & Co., New York, NY: 1999 – 2001

Pioneered Goldman's Cultural Fine Art Program for the Americas in 2000. Led the Cultural Curatorial Team in conjunction with ViArt Art Advisor Bea Metinger. Curated Cultural Exhibitions for 3 Goldman Sachs Wall Street locations, developed educational programs, online art galleries and arranged guided tours for employees, led by docents from local museums and galleries.

Top Tier Art Distributors, Piscataway, NJ. Cultural Fine Art Dealer: 1992 – 2002

Professional Lecturer and Facilitator

Collector, Dealer and Lecturer with a specialty in African American fine art for 15 years. Facilitated workshops with a focus on African American art for private and non-profit organizations including *Stamford Public Schools System, Stamford Center for the Arts, CTE, Inc., The Urban League and Reach Prep.*

Professional Associations

Student Member of Appraisers Association of America (AAA)

Amistad Foundation, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT

Fine Art Collectors of Fairfield and Westchester Counties, CT & NY

Millennium Art Salon, Washington, DC

New Canaan Society for the Arts, New Canaan, CT

Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Harlem, NY

Friend of the Brandywine Workshop, Philadelphia, PA

Friend of the Studio Museum of Harlem, Harlem, NY

Member of the Guggenheim Museum, NY, NY

Areas of Specialty:

I have been providing fine art advisory services for over 15 years, primarily to corporations with an interest in promoting awareness of cultural diversity through fine art and to private clients who collect African American Art. This includes art acquisitions, deaccessions, providing curatorial services, diversifying art collections by culture, developing art centerfolds for magazines and developing numerous fine art education programs for both adults and students. I have also inventoried and photographed collections, designed web-based portals to electronically store and organize collections, and organized framing, transporting installing and storing nationwide across for a variety of clients that include: Bank of America, CARTUS, Credit Suisse, DIAGEO, Deloitte & Touche, GE, GENWORTH, The Goldman Sachs Group, IBM, Northeast Utilities, Pitney Bowes, The Stamford Center for the Arts, Thompson Hospitality, Travelers, UBS and numerous private collectors.