

## SK O'Brien

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## Education

- 2020-2021 Master of Arts: Art + Design Education Rhode Island School of Design  
Thesis Paper - *The Non-Traditional Student Enrolled Full-Time in Art School*
- 2018-2020 Master of Fine Arts: Ceramics Rhode Island School of Design  
Thesis Paper/Exhibition - *The Tension in the Curve*
- 2004-2008 Bachelor of Industrial Design University of Louisiana at Lafayette

## Professional Employment

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2021 - Present | Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky                                      |
| 2013 - 2016    | Lead Designer, Kohler Company  |
| 2011 - 2013    | Industrial Designer, Kohler Company  |
| 2010 - 2011    | Contract Design, Kohler Company  |
| 2008 - 2009    | Products Director, 212box  |
| 2002 - 2004    | Director of Research, Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra                             |
| 2001 - 2002    | Image+Content Research, Text Writer, BananaBean Research                         |
| 1999 - 2001    | Image+Content Research, Text Writer, Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum (HOK), Studio E |

## Instructional Experience

### University of Kentucky

- BME/PRD 170 - Human Anatomy for Design
- PRD 520 - Packaging Design
- PRD 200 - History I
- PRD 220 - Studio II

### Rhode Island School of Design

- CER 1530 - Translating with Clay
- Project Open Door - Possibilities of Paper
- Project Open Door - Capturing a Moment

## Academic Appointments

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 2019/20     | Graduate Assistant - Contemporary Art Department, RISD Museum |
| Spring 2020 | Teaching Assistant - Clay in Context, RISD                    |
| Fall 2019   | Teaching Assistant - Ceramics and Print, RISD                 |
| Summer 2019 | Teaching Assistant - Reevaluating the Vessel - Italy, RISD    |
| 2018/19     | Graduate Assistant - Materials Library, RISD Library          |
| Spring 2019 | Graduate Assistant - Special Collections, RISD Library        |
| Spring 2019 | Teaching Assistant - Ceramic Sculpture, RISD                  |
| Winter 2019 | Teaching Assistant - Crafting the Wall, RISD                  |
| Fall 2018   | Teaching Assistant - Ceramics for Design Majors, RISD         |

## Guest

### Guest Speaker - Academic

Spring 2022 Ergonomics + Materiality - ID122: Interiors Studio - Ritual Vessel, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 Design Journey - DES 100: Design in Your World, University of Kentucky

### Guest Speaker - Public

2013 Design Thinking at Kohler - Monona Terrace Talks, Monona Terrace  
1995 The Classroom of the Future - AIA/CPC/CSI Continuing Education - Speaker/Panel Member

### Guest Critic

Spring 2022 PRD 121: Wire Monsters, University of Kentucky  
Spring 2022 ARC 254: Greyline Station and Julietta Market, University of Kentucky  
Spring 2022 PRD 221: CVG Airport Innovation, University of Kentucky  
Spring 2022 ID 122: Interiors Studio - Ritual Vessel, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 ARC 253: A House for Bathing - Final Review, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 PRD 120: Form Studio - Final Review, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 ID 221: Light for Breakfast - Final Review, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 ID121: Interiors Foundation Studio - Final Reviews, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 ID 559: Spaceship Earth - Mid Semester Review, University of Kentucky  
Fall 2021 ARC 550: Monolith - First Assignment, University of Kentucky

### Guest Artist

Spring 2020 Porcelain in the Making - RISD Museum

## Service

### University of Kentucky

Fall 2021 - present: Working Group - OVPR, Vice-Chair  
Fall 2021 - present: Undergraduate Council, Representative

### College of Design

Fall 2021 - present: Honors and Awards Committee, Chair

### Product Design Department

Fall 2021 - present: Curriculum Development Committee, member  
Fall 2021 - present: Admissions and Scholarship Committee, member

### Professional Service

2022 - present: IDSA Louisville, Vice-Chair  
2016 + 2017: International Housewares Show Student Design Competition, Judge

## Exhibition Curation

2020 Black: Color | Context | Meaning, Gelman Gallery - RISD  
2019 1+1=3, Murray Moss's Torpedo Lab, RISD  
2019 Every Pretty Leaf - Gorham Design Library, Fleet Library - RISD

## Exhibitions

- 2020 I-D and ArtsThread Global Design Graduate Show
- 2020 Assemblage: The MFA Show, The Olympia Project, Artsy, New York, NY
- 2020 Graduate Thesis Show, RISD Gelman Gallery, Providence, RI
- 2020 Small Favors Juried Exhibition, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2020 Paper & Clay Juried Exhibition, USU Caine College of the Arts, Logan, UT
- 2020 Ceramics Triennial, RISD Woods-Gerry Gallery, Providence, RI
- 2019 Big Little Energy Exhibition, RISD Metcalf Building, Providence, RI
- 2019 Enclosure Jewelry Exhibition, RISD Metcalf Building, Providence, RI

## Continuing Education

- 2021 Global Engagement Academy Certificate, University of Kentucky  
Internationalization at UK and Global Trends; Global Mobility; Intercultural Communication; International Travel During COVID- 19; Making the Case for Study Abroad; Advising International Undergraduate Students
- 2020 Certificate in Collegiate Teaching in Art + Design, Rhode Island School of Design
- 2019 Certificate of Readiness (CRe), Harvard Business School  
Business Analytics, Economics for Managers, Financial Accounting
- 2018 International Workshop: Ceramic Arts - Central Academy for Fine Arts (Beijing, China) + RISD

## Professional + Academic Recognition

- 2018-2020 Rhode Island School of Design Fellowship
- 2018-2020 Charles E. Merrill Scholarship, RISD
- 2015 iF Design Award, Prolific Sink
- 2015 Red Dot Design Award, Prolific Sink
- 2015 International Design Excellence Award, Prolific Sink
- 2015 Good Design Award, Prolific Sink
- 2008 International Housewares Show Student Design Competition - 1st Place, Elizabowl
- 2008 IDSA Merit Award, University of Louisiana
- 2006 International Housewares Show Student Design Competition - Honorable Mention, Vika
- 2006 UL Design Competition - First Place
- 2006 ICPF/AIAS Chair Affair - Honorable Mention, Trouble-Wit
- 2005 Design Excellence Award, University of Louisiana
- 2005 ICPF/AIAS Chair Affair - Honorable Mention, Noca
- 2001 SEGD Merit Award, Jack Daniel's Visitor Experience

## Museum Collection/Archives

- 2008 Archives of Milwaukee Art Museum, Elizabowl

## Publications

- Mornu, Nathalie; *Leather Jewellery: 30 Contemporary Projects*; Published April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010; Featured Project

## Patents

2021	USD916253S1 - Walk-In Bath
2019	USD842972S1 - Walk-In Bath
2018	CA2915188C - Shower Receptors
2018	US10130219B2 - Shower Storage and Assist Assembly
2018	CA2915196C - Shower Storage and Assist Assembly
2017	US9848740B2 - Shower Storage Systems
2017	CA2915193C - Shower Storage Systems
2017	US9574333B2 - Sink System
2016	USD753804S1 - Bath
2015	USD721167S1 - Sink
2014	USD715415S1 - Sink
2014	USD708721S1 - Sink
2008	USD577961S1 - Flexible Bowl

## Citations

- Willims, Terri; *8 Ultra-Fancy Things You Didn't Know Your Kitchen Needed*; Realtor.com; December 11, 2019  
<https://www.realtor.com/advice/home-improvement/ultrafancy-things-you-didnt-know-your-kitchen-needed/>
- IHA; *Student Design Competition Anniversary 1993-2018*; November 11, 2019  
<https://www.theinspiredhomeshow.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2018-Show-25th-anniversary-booklet.pdf>
- Martin, Hannah; *Murray Moss's Next Act*; Architectural Digest; December 24, 2018  
<https://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/murray-moss-risd-class>
- Weller, Chris; *The Best Designed Products of 2015*; Business Insider; June 18, 2015  
<https://www.businessinsider.com/the-best-designed-products-of-2015-2015-7>
- Smith, Sarah Rae; *Introducing the Elizabowl Fruit Holder*; Kitchn.com; July 23, 2009  
<https://www.thekitchn.com/introducing-the-elizabowl-frui-90903>
- Lagorio, Christine; *A Bowl That Is Fruitful and Multiplies*; New York Times; December 24, 2008  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2009/01/04/education/edlife/ideas-fruitbowl-t.html>
- Broadhurst, Stephanie Cook; *What a Good Idea!*; Christian Science Monitor; July 1, 2008  
<https://www.csmonitor.com/The-Culture/The-Home-Forum/2008/0701/p17s01-hfks.html>
- Sanderson, Vicki; *Hot Home Products - Fashion Engineered to Razzle and Dazzle*; Toronto Star; May 31, 2008  
<https://www.pressreader.com/canada/toronto-star/20080531/282355445488878>
- Kids Invent the Darnedest Things*, UPI Business News; March 16, 2008  
[https://www.upi.com/Business\\_News/2008/03/16/Kids-invent-the-darnedest-things/49261205689186/](https://www.upi.com/Business_News/2008/03/16/Kids-invent-the-darnedest-things/49261205689186/)
- Sardar, Zahid; *THE FAST T(R)ACK*; SFGate; February 27, 2008  
<https://www.sfgate.com/education/article/THE-FAST-T-R-ACK-3226217.php>