

JEAN-MARC (JM) DUCHESNE

Educator & Artist

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PROFILE

My personal and professional trajectory are forged from resilience. The result has been a parkour full of wonderful possibilities and rooted in purpose. My work ethic prides itself on maintaining structure yet remains adaptable in order to preserve childlike wonder that continuously shines brightly within.

My cultural heritage stems from French and First Nations (Algonquin & Innu) traditions. I hold dual citizenships (Canada & USA), I am fluent (written and spoken) in both English and French languages, and have obtained two Baccalaureate degrees in Fine Arts and Education. Prior to teaching on a regular basis, I worked primarily in the Film and Television industry for 28 years: Associate Producer at Walt Disney Studios on 5 feature films, making short and long format international documentary films, photographing historical events (Berlin Wall, NASA, Afghan War, etc.), and interviewing notable world figures (Dalaï-Lama, Tommy Smith, Kim Phuk, etc.). Yet, continuously finding the time to dedicate valuable time to my artistic creations. Exploring, creating, always playing, painting, sculpting, photographing and conceiving art installations showcased at art venues.

EDUCATOR

In 2014 and totally out-of-the-blue, an opportunity presented itself while capturing an image for The National Geographic Society on the shores of James Bay. It was then that I was approached about a possibility of offering a video-making and a photography workshop to First Nation Indigenous Cree students at James Bay Eeyou School (JBES). That experience proved to be so enriching, that the following year I accepted a full-time teaching position to instruct art and history to both English and French sector students, as well as leading the MikW' Chiyâm Arts concentration program (Video, Music, Visual Arts & Drama).



Photo JMD for NGS: Blood Red Moon Over James Bay (April 14, 2014)

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

Operating from a cosmopolitan perspective, lessons and unit plans are designed, developed, and derived from my real-world experiences, whilst carefully regarding individual learners, community values, and a school's mission. My approach to teaching is a perpetual exploratory process that stimulates and empowers independent thinking for each individual learner. Hence, through *play* and *compassion* students are encouraged to tap into dormant or a suppressed inner creative voice. As students better express themselves through creative curiosity driven projects, learning becomes enjoyable and not about obtaining a graded assignment. It is then that I believe brain growth and confidence begins to bolster youth to see beyond the parameters of the proverbial box.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020-23: CREE SCHOOL BOARD (CSB)

JAMES BAY EYOU SCHOOL (JBES), Chisasibi, QC

150-175 students (8-12 groups)

- 1) Multimedia Arts (Eng.) & Multimédias (Fr.), Sec. IV and V
- 2) Visual Arts, Sec. II & III (drawing, painting & art appreciation)
- 3) Entrepreneurship, Sec. 5
- 4) History (Indigenous History-origin to 1867)

Since COVID-19 isolation, an art website is created for students to complete assignments and create individual online portfolios: e.g.: <https://jmd64web.wixsite.com/multimedia>

2019 (Sept-Dec): ENGLISH MONTREAL SCHOOL BOARD (EMSB)

MACKAY CENTRE ELEMENTARY, Montreal, QC

(Grade 3 - Special Needs Education)

English, Math, Social Studies & Art:

See Animation Art Project on YouTube@ [Super Party Hero Dance Party](#)

2017-18 (Nov-Apr) & 2018-19 (Nov-Apr): RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD (RSB)

SAINT-LAMBERT INTERNATIONAL (SLI), Saint-Lambert, QC

International Baccalaureate (IB) Program (All Sec. levels)

- 1) Visual Arts, Sec. IV & V
- 2) Animation Arts & Robotics

Project links on YouTube@ [Lupatek](#) & [Down River](#)

2017 (Sept-Dec): RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BOARD (RSB)

COURTLAND INTERNATIONAL, Saint-Bruno, QC

International Baccalaureate (IB) Program School

INTERNSHIP (Grade 2 thru 4, Visual Arts), St-Bruno, QC

2015-18: CREE SCHOOL BOARD (CSB)

JAMES BAY EYOU SCHOOL (JBES), Chisasibi, QC

PART-TIME while attending university (Summer & Winter months)

- 1) History Sec. IV (English & Français)
- 2) Multimedia Arts, Sec. V (English & Français)
- 3) English (First Language), Sec. V
- 4) Français (Langue seconde), Sec. V

2014-17: CREE SCHOOL BOARD (CSB)

JAMES BAY EYOU SCHOOL (JBES), Chisasibi, QC

FULL-TIME (Secondary II-V) Chisasibi, QC

130-175 students (8-11 groups)

Visual Arts, Multimedia, Music, English, Français, Geography, History, ERC, MikW' Chiyâm Arts Concentration
Member of the School Leadership Team

2007-08: TÉLÉVISION NATIONALE D'HAÏTI (TNH)

Port-au-Prince, Haïti

Adult Ed: Journalistic norms, scripting, editing, lighting, camera



Photo: JMD 2016



Photo: A. Pughes (2019)



Photo: A. Pughes (2019)



Photo: JMD 2017

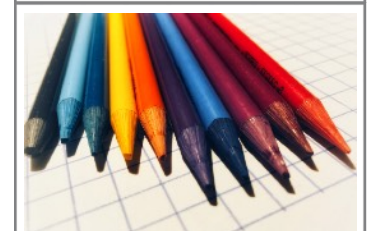


Photo: JMD 2019



Photo: JMD 2008

2004: VOLUNTEER TIBET

Dharamsala, India

English Second Language (TESL):

Nyamghal Monastery & The Children's Village (TCV)

TEACHEABLES

Digital Arts: drawing, video, photography, web design, robotics, music

Visual Arts: painting (oil, water colour & spray), drawing, sculpture, print-making

History: Art, Indigenous, Canadian, American, & Renaissance

Geography

French & English languages, First and Second language instruction

Vipassana and Mindful Meditation

EDUCATION

2017-21: CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, Montreal, QC

BFA, Specialization: Art Education

Honours with Distinction

MEQ Teaching licence

1984-85, 1989-92: UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA L.A. (UCLA), Westwood, CA

BFA, Specialization: Film Production-Cinematography

1986-87: CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, Montreal, QC

Major Fine Arts (Film Production): Specialization cinematography

1982-84: CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE (CEGEP), Saint-Lambert, QC

Creative Arts, D.E.C.

ONLINE REFERENCES & PORTFOLIOS

Personal website: www.jmd64.com

LinkedIn: <https://ca.linkedin.com/in/jeanmarcduchesne>

JMD YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWKUEfrONkBWdDVmPOZDK3w/videos>

JBES Media Arts : <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeXMmqAM3KoGPzQmvN4ELoA/videos>



Photo: JMD 2006



Photo: JMD 2016



Photo: JMD 2019



Photo: JMD 2019



Photo: JMD 2016

—All references and additional information available upon request—