Dr. Rebecca “Becky” Bilbo:

As the art historian of the department Professor Bilbo provides the historical and theoretical component to the art program as well as providing a variety of courses for the University’s core curriculum. She began her art studies in art education and earned a teaching certification for art k-12 in New York State. Her major area of study has been in American and Twentieth-Century Art especially the Gilded Age, Early Modernism and the History of Photography. American Studies and African, Caribbean and Oceanic Art have been a minor focus. She completed additional studies at Syracuse University, Montana State University and the Institute of Western Studies in Cody, Wyoming. She has given various gallery talks at the Cincinnati Art Museum and delivered conference papers on, Winslow Homer in the Bahamas, The Academic Teaching Tradition in a Post-Modern World, Evangelicalism and the Museum, The Art Patronage of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney and Portraiture in American Art. She is the Art Editor of the Northern Kentucky Encyclopedia.

To enrich the art history courses at the University Professor Bilbo has organized yearly student trips to New York, Boston or Chicago and has worked with the Foreign Language Department and lead course related summer studies in Paris and in various cities throughout Spain.

Rebecca Bilbo has served as chair of the art department and worked with the team of faculty who brought the FYS program to campus. She was named Outstanding Part-Time Faculty of the Year in 1996.

**Courses**

• History of Art I  
• History of Art II

• 20th Century Art

• History of Photography

• American Architecture

• American Art in the Gilded Age  
• Modern Art Cincinnati Art at the Cincinnati Art Museum

• Critical Examination of the Work of Winslow Homer & Thomas Eakins

**Degrees**

MA in Art History

University of Cincinnati

PhD in Art History

Indiana University

**Contact**

bilbob@thomasmore.edu

859-344-3419

Kate Rowekamp:

Kate swapped out her student hat for an instructor hat when she returned to Thomas More to teach in 2014 while finishing out her final year of graduate school at Miami University. After earning her master’s degree, Kate continued to teach at Thomas More, influenced to stay by her team of enthusiastic art department colleagues.

As you can see on page 12, Kate’s art has a lot to do with zoological science and human behavior. Additionally, her artwork is strongly influenced by pop culture imagery and themes found in cartoons, graphic novels, horror films, video games, and tabletop games. She seeks to help each student create their own unique cannon of historical and contemporary references from which to draw inspiration. Her teaching style places heavy emphasis on precision craft and solid understanding of traditional practices through a modern-day, flexible lens.

Kate exhibits both solo and collaboratively with her studio group, Escape Hatch Collective. Highlights from her exhibition history include having animations projected at Roman Susan Gallery in Chicago, IL, acceptance into Paperworks 3 at Upstream Gallery in Hudson, NY and having prints both on display and in a permanent collection at El Minia University in El Minia, Egypt. In 2015 she was the recipient of the Three Arts Nippert and Longacre Printmaking Awards. In addition to teaching and exhibiting, Kate is the Director of Education at the Fitton Center for Creative Arts in Hamilton, Ohio.

**Courses**

• Printmaking I-IV

• 3-Dimensional Design

• Animation

**Degrees**

AA in Art History, BA in Art,

Thomas More University

MFA in 2-Dimensional Studio (Printmaking),

Miami University

**Contact**

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