

*Celebrate*

**Becki Barsi**

*NH Art Educator of the Year*



**The 29th Annual New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards** recognize New Hampshire schools and individuals who meet high standards of excellence. The criteria used in selecting outstanding individuals to be honored are determined by their sponsoring organizations.

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*About*

As an educator, Ms. Barsi brings best teaching practices to her classroom by incorporating current state arts competencies and community-based integration ideas into her program. An enthusiastic embrace of 21st Century technology serves Becky in her role as a leader. She is an Adobe Certified Associate in Visual Design, and Adobe Campus leader. She uses social media and digital design to inform her own art, as well as bring others into this way of connecting to the world. She enthusiastically volunteers on the NH Scholastic Art Awards committee, and manages the Lyceum Gallery on the Derryfield campus. Her own students have received numerous awards through the Scholastic Art Awards program. Becky herself was named Independent Schools Art Educator of the Year for 2020. She also exhibits her own artwork throughout New England.

Becky's Philosophy of Education draws on the idea of 'failing forward': "It is our duty as educators to teach students how to fail with pride, and to nurture the skills that build our students to be lifelong learners. Through a safe and supportive environment like the art classroom we empower students to "own their learning," to understand that "failure" builds resilience, and by giving and receiving constructive feedback they develop empathy and learn to be effective communicators. Through failure students develop a growth mindset that will follow them throughout their lives and can impact those around them, and beyond."