

Arts Experience 3:

Narrative Medicine, Visual Art
with

Betsy Messick: Teaching Artist, Sawtooth School for Visual Art

Aimee Mephram: Associate Director, Humanities Institute - Co-Director, Story Health and Healing Initiative



Aimee Mepham

Associate Director, Humanities Institute
Co-Director, Story Health and Healing Initiative



Betsy Messick

Director of Art + Wellness, Textiles and Community Engagement,
Sawtooth School for Visual Art

What is Narrative Medicine?

“Narrative Medicine is the clinical and scholarly movement to honor the central role of story in health care. Long before doctors had anything of use in our black bags—before diagnostic CAT scans, treatments for blood loss, or cures for tuberculosis—what we had was the ability to show up and to listen; to stand witness to birth, death, illness, suffering, joy, and everything else that life has to offer.”

Sayantani DasGupta, MD, MPH, Columbia University
From “Narrative Medicine, Narrative Humility: Listening to the Streams of Stories,” *Creative Nonfiction*

Narrative Medicine Workshop Components:

- 1) Close reading of a creative “text”
- 2) Writing
- 3) Reflection

Breakout Sessions and Discussions

What did we learn?
What are our next steps?
What commitments can we provide?

Where do we go from here?

Reporting Back and Next Steps