

## **Irina Smirnoff**

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<http://i-felt.com>

## **About Myself**

I am an energetic, ambitious, and optimistic person who developed a mature and responsible approach to any task that I undertake, or situation that I am presented with. With many years of experience in teaching, public relations, and leadership I find it most rewarding to work with others toward achieving a certain objective on time and with excellence.

## **Background**

Irina Smirnoff's artistic background, spans different cultures, and crosses several disciplines.

She was born in Ukraine, raised in Moldova, and trained in USA. In the course of her career she studied many traditions in the technique of felting stemming from the ancient times to modern trends. In the late 90-th her research brought her to USA where she continued to explore her interests in arts and music at West Virginia University, working at Monongahela Arts Gallery, and later at the Artists Association of Torpedo Factory in Washington DC.

Her explorations in the rich traditions of felting brought her to such places as Fergana (Uzbekistan), Odessa (Ukraine), and Gothenburg (Sweden). The valuable experience she gained in the technique and the art of this ancient craft enabled her to start her own business and to contribute with new bright and elegant designs. Her recent endeavors include picturesque artworks depicting natural landscapes, cherry-blossoms in DC, and others - all made of felting fabrics.

Irina combines her passion for garments design with enthusiasm for sharing her skills with everyone who is interested to learn this wonderful skill. She is organizing courses at Washington DC where anyone can gain insight into effective ways of producing soft all-season fabrics from organic materials.

Irina is a true believer that the way people dress is a form of artistic expression and when combined with practicality and comfort can make us all happier.

## **Education**

- 1994: Odessa, Ukraine. Bachelor's degree of
- Social Events Organizer and piano teacher.
- 1998- till now Private lessons on vocal and piano skills
- 2016 - till now Private lessons on felting from different countries teachers

## Work Experience

Torpedo Factory Art Center, Washington DC (2017-Present)

- <http://torpedofactory.org>

Mosaic Gallery, Fairfax VA (2018 - Present)

- <https://mosaicdistrict.com/>

I-Felt.com, Small Business Owner (2018-Present)

- Courses in felting art and garment design (<http://i-felt.com>).

Office Assistant: BGG (2016 - 2017)

- Customer service.
- Document preparation / processing.

Graphic Designer: Tectral (2014 – 2016)

- Freelance graphics designer (GIMP)
- Movie clip maker (iMovie)

Client Relationships: Stop Fake (2014 - 2016)

- Supervising the department of translation
- Supervising the department of video editions
- Establishing and organizing process automation
- Leading up to one million viewers on YouTube channel.
- Language translator
- Content Editor

Financial Advisor: Primerica Financial Services (2006-2011)

- Financial Planner
- Market Insurance Specialist

- Recruiter

Recruiting Manager: Brest Crest Co., Russia (1995 - 1998)

- Recruiting Manager
- Training Manager
- Customer Service Manager
- Data Sheets Editor/Creator.

Event Organizer: Ukraine (1991 - 1994)

- Organizing events for kids and adults.
- Working with data sheets and budget planning.

### Volunteering Work

- 2008-2014: Vice President, *Parents Teachers Association (PTA) Wadsworth, OH*
- 2010-2014: Chess Club Organizer, *Elementary – Middle School*
- 2008-2014: HOA Social Committee Organizer
- 2012: Writer and Publisher book *emphasized on fostering and adjusting behavior of difficult and special needs kids*
- 2012-2014: Translator, English–Russian for newly adopted children from Ukraine and Russia.
- 2012-2014: Leading Manager/Supervisor, Ukrainian Crisis Media Channel.
- 2014 - till now *Parents Teachers Association (PTA) Vienna, VA*

### Hobbies

- Felting arts and garments
- Photography
- Architecture drawing
- Music: piano playing, improvising, composing
- Photography
- Copic Markers Sketching

### References

- Torpedo Factory Art Center.
  - 105 N. Union St. Alexandria, VA 22314
  - Brett John Johnson, MFA Director
  - [brett.johnson@alexandriava.gov](mailto:brett.johnson@alexandriava.gov)

- Isham Elementary School.
  - 325 Sunset Blvd. Wadsworth, OH 44281.
  - Nance Watts, Principal, [watts@wadsworthschools.org](mailto:watts@wadsworthschools.org)
  
- Central Intermediate School.
  - 151 Main Street, Wadsworth, OH 44282
  - Joanne Gahan, Principal, [wads\\_gahan@wadsworthschools.org](mailto:wads_gahan@wadsworthschools.org).
  
- Wadsworth Middle School.
  - 150 Silver Creek Road. Wadsworth, OH 44281
  - Eric Jackson, [ejackso@wadsworthschools.org](mailto:ejackso@wadsworthschools.org)
  
- Ukrainian Crisis Media Channel.
  - Linguistics Department
  - IT Department
  - Video Production Department