Sharon Horvathgrew up in Cleveland, Ohio and moved to NYC when she was 17 where she received her BFA from The Cooper Union and later, MFA from the Tyler School of Art, Temple University in Philadelphia and Rome, and also attended Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

Horvath's awards include a Fulbright Research Fellowship to India, a John Simon Memorial Foundation Grant for Painting, the Rome Prize from the American Academy in Rome, the Anonymous was a Woman Award, the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award for Painting and, two Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grants, a Prize for Painting from the National Academy Museum, a Mid-Atlantic NEA Regional Fellowship, an Elizabeth Foundation Grant for Painting. Other recognitions include the Faculty Prize for Outstanding Commitment as a Teacher and a Mentor from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia and the annual alumni award from Tyler School of Art. Horvath is an Academician of the National Academy Museum and School and Professor of Art in Painting and Drawing at Purchase College, SUNY.