



Sarah Megan Berry

Fairfax, Virginia

Professional Experience

Pozez Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Fairfax, Virginia | 2016- 2020

Director of Arts and Ideas

- * Set strategic vision and program goals and direct eleven personnel to deliver a robust slate of programs touching more than 15,000 diverse individuals of all ages across five counties each year
- * Created and tracked annual budgets, secured grants, diversified funding sources, and cultivated and stewarded donors
- * Served as a sounding board and cheerleader for my team, and managed payroll and annual reviews
- * Spearheaded rebranding efforts, created electronic newsletters, wrote press releases, and provided social media content
- * Staffed volunteer committees, presented at meetings to the Board of Directors as needed
- * Served as a contact and produced contracts for our presenters and venues, ensuring mutually beneficial relationships
- * Curated the Bodzin Art Gallery, bringing seven exhibits to the community annually
- * Programs included: a rotating art gallery, two annual film festivals, Positive Aging Fair, professional and community performances for all ages, a school of dance for students ages 3-103, creative programming for and by the special needs community, the Adult Education Institute's weekly lectures, arts and foreign language classes, recreational activities, and a rides program for seniors, which has provided 40K+ rides in Northern Virginia

Ingleside at King Farm, Rockville, Maryland | 2015- 2016

Cultural Arts Manger, Independent Living

- * Plan, implement, evaluate, and direct cultural programs to exceed residents' expectations
- * Served on a committee of new and long-time residents to encourage participation and internal programming leadership
- * Curated the gallery with six annual exhibits of artwork created by resident artists

The Art Connection, Boston, MA | 2010 –2015

Program Manager

- * Worked closely with diverse staff and clients at social service organizations, facilitating their selections of contemporary art collections for permanent exhibition in their organizations
- * Spearheaded strategic planning, released RFP, and led international expansion outreach to potential grantees
- * Reviewed incoming funding proposals and guided the expansion committee through the grant approval process
- * Provided consulting to eleven organizations in the US and South Africa adapting our art placement program
- * Forged new and fostered existing relationships with hundreds of local artists, arts institutions, and funders
- * Organized and led monthly committee meetings for board members and two committees guiding our programs
- * Maintained meticulous records including budget, timelines, and artwork inventory
- * Created content for and grew the agency's online presence and made regular updates to the website
- * Assisted in recruitment of staff and volunteers, collaborating to tap new hires' skills and develop their qualifications

City of Boston, Department of Parks and Recreation | 2011 – 2015

Photography Workshop Leader and Curator

- * Led photography workshops in public parks and curated participants' photos for exhibition in Boston's City Hall

Boston University, Department of Arts Administration | 2010 – 2012

Teaching Assistant, Graduate-Level Course on Comparative Cultural Policy | Summer 2012

- * Led a lecture on Cultural Diplomacy models in the United States and the European Union
- * Facilitated group discussions, assisted with grading, and managed communication between students and instructor
- * Arranged student and staff travel to London and Brussels

Graduate Assistant | Spring 2010

- * Served as Chief Conference Site Coordinator at *Association of Arts Admin. Educators Conference*, hosted at BU
- * Researched international standards of arts administration education

Rubin-Frankel Gallery at Boston University Hillel, Boston MA | 2010

Marketing and Gallery Intern

- * Secured new outlets to publicize events, increasing off-campus community engagement with local cultural consulates
- * Assisted with freight unpacking, assessment of artwork condition, and worked with installers

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia, Fairfax, VA | 2006 – 2008

Programming Director, Elementary and Youth Department

- * Designed and implemented daily K-6 enrichment classes in visual arts, theater, cooking, and science
- * Host Delegation Head of JCC Maccabi ArtsFest, an international multi-media arts event for 300 teens
- * Started an internship program, recruited George Mason University students for our after school and camp programs

The Alice Ferguson Foundation, Accokeek, MD | 2006

Media Assistant, Trash Free Summit at the World Bank

- * Contacted regional media and local leaders, resulting in news coverage in several states and political presence at event

Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History, Washington, DC | 2004

Photographic Services Intern

- * Documented the museum's collection and events, four of my Folklife Festival photos published by the Smithsonian

Education

Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts | 2011

MS Arts Administration | Secretary of Arts Administration Student Association, Chair of Publications Committee

George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia | 2005

BA Psychology, Art & Visual Technology minor | Cum Laude graduate

Relevant Skills

- * Motivated, organized, and professional, with a good sense of humor and knack for community building
- * A people person able to convey the necessity of the arts, while remaining grounded in the practical details of what is needed to ensure the arts flourish* Proficient in Microsoft Office 365, social media platforms, and a variety of email marketing software, website builders, and CRM platforms
- * Fluent in Spanish and Italian, intermediate French
- * Award winning, internationally exhibiting visual artist (photography and green/found mixed-media)

Volunteer Arts Leadership

- * 2020: **Guest Lecturer, George Mason University** | Spoke about community arts and arts advocacy to a graduate-level art history course taught by Dr. LaNitra Berger
- * 2019: **Juror, Reston Multicultural Festival** | Assisted in identifying and recruiting performing artists
- * 2013-2015: **Steering Committee, MASSCreative** | Worked on state-wide arts advocacy initiatives in Massachusetts
- * 2012-2015: **Founding Advisory Council, Unbound Visual Arts** | Helped spark a successful exhibiting organization
- * 2011-2015 **Executive Council, Jewish Arts Collaborative** | Co-created multi-modal arts programming, envisioned and implemented *8 Nights, 8 Windows*, a week-long public art project