# Julie A. Downey www.JulieAJViolaDowney.com

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#### **EDUCATION**

Master of Arts: Interdisciplinary Arts, Columbia College, Chicago, IL, 2009

Bachelor of Science: Communications & Creative Writing, Bradley University, Peoria, IL 1993

#### WRITER/EDITOR

CORE Personal Coaching, Lisle, IL, (remote, freelance) November 2018 to present

Created website map (acorespace.org), and write and edit content directly in GoDaddy. Ghostwrite and edit blogs. Manage social media accounts. Develop marketing strategy with business owner.

## MicroAccounting, Richardson, TX (remote), April 2014 to March 2018

As content marketing specialist, I worked in collaboration with accounting, human resources, and other business software experts to create written marketing materials. Responsibilities included researching technical product data and crafting user-friendly website copy, blog articles, and printed pieces.

After the in-house designer position was eliminated, I built and edited web pages and blog posts using WordPress, and applied strategic formatting and tags for optimum SEO; I worked with outside designers when we needed greater technical expertise.

I was responsible for building our social media presence, and shared content on major platforms and edited team member profiles.

In collaboration with designers and internal teams, I wrote and edited conceptual print pieces and tradeshow signage, and edited copy directly in Adobe InDesign before passing it to the freelancer. When we needed headshots, I found a photographer and managed the Chicago shoot. When we needed a sculptural piece for a show, I sourced and managed the artist.

I wrote press releases and set them up in PR Web. In addition, I wrote sales emails to target markets, set them up in AutoPilot and MailChimp, and created landing pages, providing instructions to web designers.

Concurrently, I held the same responsibilities for affiliate companies **Workforce Go!**, a software provider (*October 2016 to March 2018*), and **xkzero**, a mobile app developer (*April 2014 to December 2016*).

#### Let Eric Play, Lansing, MI (virtual), Spring 2012

Led Twitter campaign for organization that successfully changed disability rights laws within Michigan High School Athletic Association, extending age eligibility to 19 for students with Down syndrome

## DetroitMusic.TV, Detroit, MI March 2011 to February 2012

As managing editor of the web site, selected & uploaded videos, & wrote descriptive text using WordPress; as managing producer of weekly Internet TV show, "DetroitMusic.TV Live," booked & photographed guests, & publicized shows via social media

#### Bluerock Property Management, Southfield, MI January to July 2010

Developed print ad for North Park Towers (photographed property; designed layout & wrote copy)

#### WRITER/EDITOR (cont'd)

## The Silent Nation Project, Chicago, IL, June to July 2008

In support of educational programs supplementing the PBS-award winning documentary film, *Standing Silent Nation*, edited marketing material text, promoted festival using online marketing tools, & solicited donations; informed community members about sustainable farming & its economic benefits; photographed events

## Chicago Public Schools, Daniel Boone Elementary School, Chicago, IL, January to June 2007

Researched & wrote grants for Community School programs; photographed student and adult enrichment activities, created promotional print materials for fundraisers; developed web presence with photo essays depicting the lively culture and visual evidence of the need for beautification funding

# marchFIRST, Chicago, IL, March 2000 to July 2001

Wrote web site copy for insurance client Allstate and online consumer goods store easyfurnish; wrote conceptual interactive banner ads with art directors for financial client Nuveen; developed conceptual web sites for new business pitches (health care information portal & consumer electronic device)

## Ameritech, Chicago, IL, April to December 1999

As interactive copywriter, wrote web site copy; used customized content editing software

## Freelance, Chicago, IL, January 1997 to December 2004

Edited trade association materials: professional conference transcripts (Society of Actuaries), fact sheets (Bank Administration Institute); edited associate profiles for staffing firm (Paladin)

## Brentwood Media Group, Los Angeles, CA, January 1994 to October 1995

Wrote features articles published in the Westwood News, Brentwood News, & Santa Monica News

#### **PROJECT MANAGER**

#### Change::The Music, Detroit, MI, January to June 2010

Curated online arts compilation; gave voice to socially conscious artists; partnered with the U.S. Social Forum to elevate Detroit's position as a city of creators & thinkers

## Ameritech, Chicago, October 1998 to April 1999

Managed marketing & advertising budget for telecommunications company

## Team One Advertising, El Segundo, CA, March to December 1996

Developed strategies to build Internet presence & sales for luxury automobile client, Lexus; wrote creative briefs; managed creative projects; managed budgets; prepared client meeting materials

#### Davis, Ball & Colombatto, Los Angeles, CA, October 1994 to April 1996

Handled administrative tasks for advertising agency's client, Southern California Toyota Dealers Advertising Association, tracked \$26 million annual media budget; routed broadcast & print media copy; coordinated promotions with professional sports teams; prepared meeting binders & coordinated schedules

#### **EDUCATOR**

Illinois Institute of Art, Schaumburg, IL, August 2012 to August 2014

Taught college-level media arts courses (Survey of Film and Video, Introduction to Digital Filmmaking, Scriptwriting & Storytelling, Interactive Storytelling, Language of Animation and Film, & Audio for Games & Animation); developed curriculum to meet core competencies & encourage creative practices; extra-curricular: Faculty Volunteer Coordinator & Faculty Juror, ARTimation digital arts festival (FA13); Faculty Project Supervisor, minor league baseball team mural, Boomers Stadium (SP13); Filmmaking Instructor, High School Institute (SU13); Committee Member, Save Our Students (FA12)

## Detroit Sees, Forward Arts' Access Arts Detroit, Detroit, MI, July to November 2011

Developed community photography program; wrote grants and earned funding from the Detroit Design Festival & the Woodbridge Neighborhood Development Corporation, & received support from AmeriCorps Midtown Urban Safety Project; led photo workshops; hired, trained, & managed assistant teaching artist & volunteers; digitally formatted images, & managed printing/paste-up of images on boarded up windows of abandoned building; promoted project via social media; led a University of Michigan class tour

## U.S. Social Forum, Detroit, MI, June 2010

Managed Children's Art Village outdoor family art classes; led art projects using recycled materials; arranged for art to appear in Hart Plaza gallery; coordinated volunteers

Student Conservation Association, Conservation Leadership Corps, Detroit, MI, Summers 2010 & 2011 Co-supervised 10 teens in a green jobs training program; 2011 project: removed invasive plant species & watering trees; 2010 project: created a mountain bike trail; both years: taught environmental justice, job readiness, financial literacy, & photo & video documentation through focused field trips & integrated lessons; received professional development in environmental and humane education, including hands-on trail building

# Columbia College, Center for Community Arts Partnerships, Pulaski Fine Arts Academy & Sabin Magnet School Community Schools Programs, Chicago, IL, February 2005 to May 2010

Taught interdisciplinary arts classes after school and during the summer; managed intern & assistants; prepared exhibitions (yearbook, journalism, photography, printmaking, collage, oral storytelling, poetry, materials re-use, mural painting, gardening, girls' empowerment; grades 1-8)

Arts Integration Mentorship Project (Project AIM), Chicago, IL, *March 2003 to May 2007*Partnered with classroom teachers to integrate arts-based strategies into science and social science curriculum; increased student engagement in core subject areas; honored student achievement with exhibitions at the Museum of Contemporary Photography, performances, publication, & school-hosted performances & gallery showings (photography, poetry, collage; grades 1-4)

# Chicago Abused Women Coalition (CAWC), Chicago, IL, September 1997 to June 2001

Founded weekly journal writing workshop at Greenhouse Shelter; led citywide workshops for volunteers and new employees; spoke to cable TV audience (Domestic Violence Hotline, CAN-TV 21); raised funds & organized walkathon team; received Annual Volunteer Appreciation Award; earned state grant through Association House

#### PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

**Madison Freelancers Union**; *AIMprint*, publisher: Columbia College Center for Community Arts Partnerships, essay contributor, *3/2008*; **Art of Movement Making**, panelist, *9/2007*; **Chicago Teaching Artists Collective**, founding member, *2004 to 2009* 

## **COMPUTER SKILLS**

**Software:** Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Photoshop, Final Cut Pro, Premiere Pro, After Effects, Sound Edit Pro, InDesign, Illustrator **Content Marketing Tools:** WordPress, Wix, Bit.ly, Autopilot, MailChimp, GoDaddy **Hardware:** Mac & PC platforms; video cameras, film cameras; digital audio recorders, microphones