

ELLEN KOVACS SPANGLER

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EXPERTISE

program development • impact measurement • grant writing • donor stewardship
training and facilitation • relationship building • project management

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Three Notch'd Nonprofit Solutions, LLC | Crozet, VA **March 2021 – Present**

Owner | Consultant.

- Specializing in nonprofit program design and evaluation, fundraising and communications.

Junior League of Denver | Denver, CO **January 2020 – May 2021**

Development Director.

- Devised and implemented development strategies, cultivated relationships and oversaw donor communications.
- Identified and prepared grant proposals and other funding requests.
- Wrote and designed donor engagement content, including appeals, brochures and annual reports.
- Assisted with training for JLD members on fundraising strategies.

Resource Area For Teaching (RAFT) | Denver, CO **February 2018 – December 2019**

Development and Communications Director, September 2019 – Present.

- Oversaw RAFT's development plan and donor cultivation strategy, including annual fundraising event.
- Identified, researched and prepared grant proposals, reports and corporate sponsorships.
- Managed communications and public relations strategy for engaging RAFT members, partners and supporters.

Outreach Manager, December 2018 – August 2019.

- Managed contributed revenue, including individual donations, online solicitation, grants and sponsorships.
- Served as organizational expert and liaison for RAFT's CRM, Salesforce.
- Oversaw marketing and communications, including weekly newsletter, social media and public relations.

Grant Writer/Outreach Associate, February – December 2018.

- Identified, wrote and tracked foundation and corporate grants and other funding opportunities.
- Conducted impact data collection, analysis and reporting.
- Coordinated RAFT's marketing efforts, including creating a social media strategy and maintaining website.

Clyfford Still Museum | Denver, CO **January 2016 – October 2016**

Manager of Education and Programs, School and Youth.

- Developed, coordinated, and delivered new programs for K-12 schools and related community organizations.
- Increased program awareness and conducted evaluations that informed improvements.
- Supervised Gallery Teachers, oversaw monthly training and conducted performance reviews.

Denver Art Museum (DAM) | Denver, CO **April 2008 – December 2015**

School Tour Specialist, March 2015 – December 2015.

- Developed tour offerings and oversaw training for 130 docents who deliver school programs.
- Maintained key contacts in school districts to ensure offerings were aligned with student and teacher needs.
- Set and tracked annual school attendance goals to ensure DAM was reaching a diverse audience. *Coordinator of School and Teacher Programs, October 2010 – March 2015.*

Developed and delivered innovative standards-based school tours and programs for ages 3-adult.

- Oversaw student exhibitions, receptions, teacher professional development and other community events.
- Cultivated key community partnerships and conducted surveys, in-depth interviews and focus groups.

Creativity Resource Manager, April 2008 – October 2010.

- Managed creation of grant-funded [Creativity Resource](#) website offering images and curriculum.
- Collaborated across museum departments, including curators, registrars, development and technology staff.
- Contributed to grant reports and represented the museum at conferences and other events.

Smithsonian American Art Museum | Washington, DC **March 2006 – March 2008**

Education Specialist, January 2007 – March 2008.

- Coordinated videoconference program; trained docents in teaching methods and technology.
- Managed virtual learning platform for teachers; designed collections-based materials.

Public Programs Assistant, March 2006 – January 2007.

- Developed and organized lectures, concerts and other adult and family programs for ages 4-adult.
- Coordinated volunteers, hired speakers and performers and arranged logistics.

National Building Museum | Washington, DC **January – March 2006**

Museum Teacher.

- Delivered hands-on architecture programs to school, scout and family groups for ages 6-12.

PRESENTATIONS GIVEN

- “How To Make an Ask” Member Training, Junior League of Denver (2020)
- “Sparkling Creativity Through Picture Books and Stuff” at Resource Area For Teaching Symposium on Hands-On Learning (2018)
- “Preparing the Canvas: Art, Critical Thinking and the Preschool Child” keynote presentation at Qualistar Quality Symposium (2013)
- “Partnerships That Extend Learning Opportunities” panel at the Leadership Forum in conjunction with the National Association of Gifted Children annual convention (2012)
- “How Do Artists Solve Problems?” at Colorado Art Education Association annual conference (2011)
- “DAM, That’s Creative: How the Denver Art Museum Designs Online and On-Site Experiences Where Creativity Reigns” at Arts Education Partnership National Forum (2010)
- “Museums and Schools: Thinking Outside the Box” at Denver Museum Education Roundtable (2009)

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

M.A.T. in Museum Education **The George Washington University**, Washington, DC
Coursework included Educational Theory, Museum Audiences, Program Evaluation and Grant Writing.

B.A. with High Distinction, Italian / Art History **University of Virginia**, Charlottesville, VA
Coursework included Classical, Renaissance and Modern Art, Anthropology, Photography and Painting.

Curriculum and Pedagogy

Thinking Strategies Institute, January 2016
Public Education and Business Coalition (PEBC)

Learning Through Objects: Museums and Young Children, January 2015
Smithsonian Early Enrichment Center

Program Evaluation and Assessment

Randi Korn & Associates (RK&A) May – July 2005

Grant Proposal Writing

Smithsonian Institution November 2006

The George Washington University January – May 2005

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Virginia Association of Museums (VAM)

Museum Education Roundtable (MER)

Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP)

Denver Museum Education Roundtable, Co-Chair, 2011-2017.

Colorado Art Education Association (CAEA), Museum Representative 2008-2010.