

ELLEN KOVACS SPANGLER

linkedin.com/in/ellenkspangler | ellen@threenotchdnoprofit.com | threenotchdnoprofit.com

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 development and evaluation, fundraising, and communications.
- Junior League of Denver** | Denver, CO **January 2020 - May 2021**
Development Director.
- Devised development strategies, cultivated relationships, and oversaw donor communications.
 - 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 - December 2019.
- 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 strategies for engaging RAFT members, partners, and supporters.
- Outreach Manager, December 2018 - August 2019.*
- Managed contributed revenue, including donations, online solicitation, grants, and sponsorships.
 - Served as organizational expert and liaison for RAFT's CRM, Salesforce.
 - Oversaw marketing and communications, including weekly newsletter and social media presence.
- Grant Writer/Outreach Associate, February - December 2018.*
- Identified, wrote, and tracked foundation and corporate grants and other funding opportunities.
 - Coordinated 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 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 classroom 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, 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, 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.

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)
- "Sparking Creativity Through Picture Books and Stuff" at RAFT Symposium on Hands-On Learning (2018)
- "Preparing the Canvas: Art, Critical Thinking and the Preschool Child" keynote at Qualistar (2013)
- "Cruising the Creative Process" at RAFT Symposium on Hands-On Learning (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)
- "Stop! Look! Play!" at Colorado Art Education Association annual conference (2009)
- "Museums and Schools: Thinking Outside the Box" at Denver Museum Education Roundtable (2009)

EDUCATION

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, Public Education and Business Coalition (PEBC)

January 2016

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

January 2015

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.