Catalytic Facilitator

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Work History



Ariel Brooks Consulting Independent Consultant

January 2022 - Present

Utilizes a unique Catalytic Facilitation approach to support nonprofits, philanthropic foundations and social justice enterprises to build alignment, strategic clarity and forward momentum. Specialties in organizational design, leadership and management, governance, integrated capital and economic democracy.



Center for Economic Democracy
Founding Director of Capacity and Operations / Managing Director
January 2018 to January 2022

As the organization's first staff member, supported founder to develop and administer all internal systems and community-facing programs. Served as program director for the Solidarity Economy Initiative and Solidarity Philanthropy Learning Circle, co-anchored annual bottom-up budget cycle, fundraising and philanthropic organizing. Managed board of trustees and CED Fellows program. Bottom lined organizational development, operations work, financial monitoring and approvals. Co-authored Social Movement Investing paper.



College for Social Innovation Founding Chief Program Officer

December 2015 to January 2018

Designed and developed curriculum frameworks and student-facing administrative systems for Semester in the City, an experiential semester-away program for undergraduates, including residential and student life, host organization partnerships, internship placements and technology. Built and led accredited 12-credit college course, Becoming a Problem Solver, which taught six core skills and habits over the course of 17 full-day workshops. Core habits and skills included: be a change agent, work hard and smart, human centered design, storytelling for impact, data driven insights, and working with diverse teams.

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Work History - Continued



Marlboro College Interim Dean of Students

July 2015 - December 2015

Oversaw 16-member residential and student life team for small liberal arts college in Southeastern Vermont, including all non-academic student discipline, student housing, emergency on-call systems and safety officer, the Total Health Center, the Career and Life Path Center, and the Outdoor Program.

Director of Non-Degree Programs

January 2018 to January 2022

Built portfolio of 12 distinct programs for diverse audiences, intended to raise the profile of the college, generate revenue, and/or attract prospective students. Highlights included the Beautiful Minds Challenge scholarship competition, creditbearing Summer Programs and Dual Credit partnership for high school students.



Phillips Brooks House Association at Harvard College Director of Student Development

December 2015 to January 2018

Built training system, including creation of standardized content, training of trainers and organization of delivery. Headed evaluation and assessment efforts for the organization as a whole.



Strong Women, Strong Girls Founding Program Manager

January 2005 - June 2006

In Boston, managed three college chapters and multiple elementary school partnerships. In Pittsburgh, established new chapters and partnerships. Led volunteer training, curriculum design, conference planning and more as part of a small start-up team.

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Education



Master of Education in Instructional Design

Institution: UMass Boston Year of Graduation: 2009



Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

IProvisionary Teacher Licensure for Secondary English Language Arts Institution: Harvard College, Harvard Graduate School of Education

Year of Graduation: 2004

Additional Affiliations



Just Economy Institute | Fellow 2021-2022



EDGE Funders Alliance | Global Engagement Lab Fellow 2020-2021

Adjunct Faculty Positions



Marlboro College Graduate & Professional Studies

Nonprofit Management Certificate Faculty | Building a Strong Staff Culture 2014 - 2020



LGREENFIELD Greenfield Community College Community Education

Nonprofit Management Course 2012-2015

Publications



Social Movement Investing: A Guide to Capital Strategies for Community Power https://economicdemocracy.us/social-movement-investing/ Co-author, 2022

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Significant Consulting Engagements



Neighborhood Funders Group | 2022 - Present (2+ years)

Designer and community steward for Values Aligned Investment Praxis Group, a cohort program for philanthropic foundation CEOs and CFOs.



International Refugee Assistance Project | 2022-2023 (9 months)

Co-designed and led Inclusive Supervision Cohort for mid-level managers.



Baroo, Inc | 2017 (6 months)

Served as interim Chief Operating Officer for a venture funded startup company.



Salephera Consulting Ltd | 2011 (9 months)

Completed periodic projects including website design, meeting facilitation and training design and delivery for Malawian consulting company.



New Sector Alliance | 2010 (10 months)

Completed needs assessment and redesigned year-long "Alternative MBA" curriculum; orchestrated training design and delivery.

Volunteer Work and Board Service



Elmer's Community Center

Founder & Board President | 2022 - Present

Town of Ashfield Planning Board

Board Member | 2021-2022

Ashmont Nursury School (Parent Cooperative)

Vice President | 2017-2018 | Admissions Committee | 2016 -2017

Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies

President | 2015-2016 || Board Member | 2013-2015

New State House Community Day Secondary School (Lilongwe, Malawi)

Teacher | 2011