



SHANNON WILLOW

Visual Artist /Facilitator/Designer

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Artist, Eco-Activist and Facilitator with a passion for social justice and more than twelve years' experience in operations and project management. Passionate about using music and art to advance social and economic justice and protect the natural world.

Extensive operations and project management experience taking new initiatives from start to finish under budget and exceeding expectations. Expert relationship building skills, including twenty plus years' experience prospecting and developing new client leads and maintaining positive, productive partnerships with a diverse range of city leaders, community members, and clients in Atlanta and nationwide.

- Budget and financial management expertise, [including management with budgets ranging from \$5,000 - \$25,000].
- Supervisory experience and a passion for people, team work, and finding creative solutions.
- Designer and facilitator of large scale mural projects, both interior and exterior.
- Leadership and expertise in climate crisis and curated solutions for reducing our carbon footprints.

EXPERIENCE

Shannon Willow Art, LLC - Clarkston, GA, Artist Entrepreneur - May 1993-Present

Award Winning Artist & Designer; Educator/Instructor; Muralist/Facilitator; Expert Team Builder

- Development of ECOsoul Care, a branch of Shannon Willow Art, LLC with conscious curated content to help community reduce carbon footprints on a personal level - membership site launching 2021
- Featured artist at 'One Earth/One Chance' climate justice art show currently showing at Georgia State University, curated by Women's Caucus for Art of Georgia, 2020
- Designed and hand painted 'Hope' Mural in Clarkston, GA with team building experience with Auction Event Works, 2020
- Co-Chair for artist activism for Women's Caucus for the Arts of Georgia, 2020
- Award winning artist for the Judith Alexander Foundation for visual artists, 2020
- Award winning artist for 'Art of Nature' at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve - temporary art installation; 'Our Nest, Our Home'
- Continued work in multiple commissions in oil and watercolor for various clients across the United States
- Designed curated creative content for Kindred Lane and Rooted in Love Alliance, Atlanta, GA, 2020
- Designed and facilitated an innovative art team building experience for Turner Foundation Executives, 2019
- Grant awarded from Alternate ROOTS to complete 90 foot 'Unity' mural in Clarkston which was co-created with the youth of Positive Growth, Inc. foster children, 2019
- Developed and hand painted a large canvas diptych with six young refugee girls to tell their story about resettling in American, project was funded by New American Economy of New York, 2019
- ALMA - Arts Leaders in Metro Atlanta, Class of 2019
- Spring Solo Exhibition, 'Gaia Speak' at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve, 2019
- 'TreeBook,' an interactive art sculpture acquisition by Blue Heron Nature Preserve, 2019
- Al Gore's Climate Reality Leadership Corp Training Graduate - Climate Reality Project, 2019
- Mentored valedictorian of Stone Mountain HS through mural process for filming of full length featured film about Clarkston, Georgia, 2019
- Two Global Village Project Refugee School murals in Decatur, Georgia; completed with all students, 2018
- Corporate art team building event with 32 fellows in the health industry for a leadership program three years consecutively; paintings were created to be hung throughout Novant Health, Inc facilities
- Guest speaker for Compassionate ATL: a conversation about climate reality and our connection to the natural world
- Selected artist for Old Fourth Ward Utility Boxes, painted in 2018 and won Atlanta Urban Design Commission Award 2019
- 400 foot logo hand painted on roof for airport advertisement at Pensacola Airport, 2018
- Artist in Residence at the Blue Heron Nature Preserve 2018 'Art of Nature' pollinator art installation
- Part of the artist team for the 4000 square foot Adrienne Herndon Mural by Charmaine Minnefield on the Atlanta BeltLine
- Awarded 2017 Habitat for Humanity grant to create an 85 foot 'Human Family Forest' mural engaging 200 residents and featured on Netflix 'Queer Eye' partially funded by the City of Clarkston and the Clarkston Development Foundation
- Primary fundraiser in communication and engagement with supporters and stakeholders in the Clarkston community to raise funding to meet budget goals for the 'Human Family Forest' mural located in Clarkston, Georgia at Refuge Coffee Company
- Collaborated with Color ATL artists on interactive sculpture for the BeltLine in 2017
- Solo exhibition of original oil paintings in Summer of 2017: 'Expanding Roots' was best selling show in six year history of Decatur Arts Alliance Gallery in Decatur, Georgia

- Participation in a group exhibition called 'Stand' with social justice themes, sponsored by Alternate ROOTS at the Auburn Avenue Research Library, Fall 2017
- Published in multiple DeKalb Free Press publications for community engagement using public art
- Shannon Willow Art design selected for print in Color ATL, Volume 1 coloring book
- Designed and facilitated two murals with corporate team building element at Coralwood School in Decatur, Georgia
- Trained 'Hatch' program supporting artists for socially engaged art at C4 Atlanta, funded by Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation
- Designed and completed 100 foot mural created with community to raise awareness about animal compassion in East Atlanta Village; expertise applied to facilitate corporate team building with East Atlanta Animal Clinic staff
- Hand painted logos and signage on the Clarkston Communicycle Tool Box ; a traveling bicycle that educates and repairs bikes in the community of Clarkston, Georgia
- Awarded Winner of 2014 Ideas Challenge Grant sponsored by The Community Foundation to create a Diversity Mural using art as a tool to bridge faiths and cultures
- Co-Founder of the Clarkston Green Team organized to educate refugees and community members on green practices, neighborhood clean-up and planet friendly life styles
- Teaching artist at Art at the Center 2014, 2015 and 2016 at the Clarkston Community Center, teaching children Earth Art, funded by National Endowment for the Arts; included sculptures from natural objects and two murals
- Featured artist, City of Decatur 2014 Book Festival, exhibiting 'TreeBook' an art installation
- Designed and facilitated a community project of painting a local organic farmer's delivery van, sponsored by Naked Juice
- Designed and facilitated first public art mural in Clarkston through United Way grant funding with a specialty in civic engagement in 2013
- Designed and facilitated a tree mural with 80 children at International Community School in Decatur, Georgia
- Worked closely with the city government of Clarkston to put policy into place for public art awareness and leading the public art movement in the city working with over 200 community members to create murals
- Created multiple three dimensional hand made custom logo signage for the Clarkston Community Center
- Continuously offering art classes and educating adults through various creative mediums in studio
- Award winning artist for Inman Park Festival in 2007 and festival art published in an Atlanta history book, 'Atlanta, Yesterday and Today,' written by Rebecca Burns
- Designed and created custom original art for clients, including murals, paintings, hand carved drums, custom wood designs and unique jewelry
- Designed and built unique custom wood creations such as specialty barn wood frames, large mission style furniture, elaborate chicken houses and unique wood sculptures
- Designed a series of non-traditional books using handmade paper, watercolor, wood and other mixed media
- Specializing in fancy Venetian glass trade beads, primarily 19th Century and their value and history
- Award winning artist for Mother's Day Native American, Canton, Georgia in 2006
- Educate the public & raising awareness about our Earth through the creative process
- Mentored at-risk youth on assorted art projects for public display

The Drum Cafe, Scottdale, GA, Facilitator/Team Leader

January 2007-Present

- International performer facilitating a non-verbal musical experience through African drums and percussion
- Team Leader responsible for coordinating production and leading a well planned, interactive show
- Liaison for Drum Café Team and client, focusing on details of show and client customized messaging to deliver maximum experience
- Using drumming as a tool to break down social and economic barriers for people of all ages
- Travel and organize logistics with clients, Nationally and Internationally

Aaron Appraisal Services, Atlanta, GA, Fine Art/Antiques Appraiser Assistant

August 2014-June 2015

- Assist in the research and value fine art and antiques according to originality, historical periods and quality
- Research and assist in preparation of written appraisal reports for a variety of purposes
- Consultant on fancy Venetian glass trade beads and their value with African Art Curator, High Museum
- Evaluate and discern techniques and quality of fine art
- Photograph fine art, antiques and furniture for a variety of institutional, commercial and private clients
- Study and research styles and makers of early furniture, silver and various types of personal property

Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN, Two/Three Dimensional Artist

May 1995-December 2000

- Lead Decorator, responsible for overseeing staff to ensure completion and effectiveness of work on temporary and seasonal exhibits
- Exhibition assistant of two dimensional and three dimensional elements displayed in Civil War exhibit; tasks included set creation for period scenes to display medic station, encampment of battle grounds, garden and home life as seen in 1860s
- Coordinated multiple aspects of projects with internal staff and implementing designs

- Detailed final exhibits and maintained aesthetics throughout the exhibit
- Researched history to design exhibit elements according to facts and time periods
- Help create large scale murals for dioramas, developing two and three dimensional elements for exhibits
- Worked closely with staff and team to complete install within the galleries on schedule

Indiana State Fair Commission, Indianapolis, IN Graphic Design Manager

June 1995-September 1997

- Designed and disseminated all in-house printed materials
- Edited content of all internal publications
- Liaison between departments to meet design needs of on-site staff

Beech Street Art Guild, Indianapolis, IN, Designer & Production Artist

January 1993-November 1995

- Planned and implemented various production projects
- Designed and hand cut stencils to create production style art, multiples on canvas
- Ordered supplies and materials and maintained records/databases as needed
- Conducted general office duties as assigned by supervisor and maintained all project related filing systems

Other work experience includes PTSD/Depression Research Administrative Assistant at Emory University, Atlanta, GA (2003-2006) and Designer/Wood Shop Manager at Farmer D Organics, Atlanta, GA (2007 -2009).

EDUCATION

Ball State University, Muncie, IN, 1993 - Bachelor of Fine Arts: Graphic Design & Painting

Anderson Area Vocational Technical School, Anderson, IN, 1985-1987 - Graphic Arts

C4 Atlanta, Georgia, 2014 Ignite Business & AIM Marketing; continuing education for artist entrepreneurs

SKILLS

Leadership ~ Collaboration ~ Innovative ~ Problem-Solving ~ Excellent Communicator ~ Attention to Detail ~ Multi-Tasking Ability ~ Strong Work Ethic ~ Creative ~ Self-Confidence ~ Strong Written and Verbal Skills ~ Self Starter ~ Event/Workshop Planner ~ Basic Computer Skills and Photo Editing ~ Efficient Administrative Skills

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Member of Alternate ROOTS, C4 Atlanta, Women's Caucus for Art . Trained in 'Hatch' Community Organizing, Handled birds of prey for two years with master falconer and educator, Ray Pena. Plays multiple instruments.

REFERENCES

- Ted Terry, Dekalb County Commissioner, tedterry@gmail.com, 912.08.5538
- Roberta Malavenda, Executive Director, Clarkston Development Foundation, roberta@cdfaction.org, 404.317.2734
- McKenzie Wren, Chief Engagement Officer, Wren Consulting, mckenzie@wrenconsulting.com, 404.849.0109
- Magen McRoberts, Event Strategists/Auctioneer, Auction Event Works, magen@auctioneventworks.com, 770.862.2933