

SYMPHONY SWAN-ZAWADI BFA, M.ED (SHE|HER)

CREATIVE STRATEGIST | LEADER | ARTIST | EDUCATOR | CONNECTOR

www.SymphonySwan.com | www.THECR8TVHOUSE.com |



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

7/2023 - Present

Ruth Foundation
for the Arts
Milwaukee, WI

MANAGER OF PUBLIC INITIATIVES

Responsible for organizing, supporting, and facilitating public initiatives as an integral component of the Foundation's artistic program. Works collaboratively to develop public initiatives that connect a multiplicity of ideas and communities across a spectrum of lived experiences with artists, audiences, neighborhoods, and the art field at large. demonstrate knowledge of local, national, and global contemporary art practices and are connected with artists, writers, and thinkers working across disciplines, geographies, and identities. Cultivate and sustain relationships with collaborators, cultural organizations and communities, and educational institutions to further the Foundation's work.

7/2023- Present

The CR8TV HOUSE, INC.
Milwaukee, WI

FOUNDER AND CHIEF CREATIVE

Founder of an arts institution that centers the work and needs of artists from the global majority. The house will be transformed to provide exhibition space and studio for artists. Provides space for artists and creatives to dream radically. Maintain and support all operations of the buildout of this start up organization.

7/2020 - 6/2023

Arts@ Large
Milwaukee, WI

SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

Maintain overall strategic and operational responsibility for all Arts @ Large programs, community relations, budgets and development. Identified opportunities for Arts @ Large to leverage cross-program strengths to take advantage of new opportunities and/or to address organizational challenges. Prepared and submitted annual operational budgets. Served as the liaison to community partners, and work with the CEO to keep Boards of Directors regularly informed of programmatic strategies and challenges. Developed DEI initiatives and programmatic practices to promote equitable and sustainable policies for staff and community stakeholders. Artist advocate for fair equitable pay and access to gigs. Curated and developed artist professional development. Coordinate organizational and program curriculum and timelines. Developed programs to support artist, student and staff development. Designed reports and materials to assist in securing the necessary funds to support art school and community programs. Served as public relations by coordinating and cultivating stakeholder relationships (community and board members), centered artist engagement and community building. Manage Social media and marketing for programming and funding reports. Marketing and social media design and development for organization growth and development. Developed Artist database for continued outreach and support.

2018-2020

Woodlands School -
State Street Campus
Milwaukee, WI

INTERIM PRINCIPAL/ ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Led school-wide initiatives for cultural, curricular, and operational improvements during a transition. Urgently pursued academic gains to close achievement gaps, serving as academic dean and training successors. Recruited and supported teachers, staff, and families, maintaining a culture of high expectations and joy with a consistent 96% attendance rate. Fostered continuous improvement through peer observations, external evaluations, and an open-door policy. Coached educators and behavior committee members to reduce suspensions and enhance social-emotional learning. Established meaningful community partnerships and implemented school-wide incentives for positive behavior. Developed and executed a character education plan using Teach Like a Champion and Love and Logic strategies.

2017-2018

HOPE Semper
Milwaukee, WI

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Demonstrated a sense of urgency to achieve dramatic gains in student learning and close the achievement gap by increasing high yield instructional practices including data driven instruction, teacher observation, and creating a culture of success. Worked to coach teachers around restorative practices and positive classroom cultures. Developed a strategic plan to decrease suspensions, truancy and increase daily attendance with weekly teacher professional developments, and weekly all school assemblies.

2014-2017

2013-2014

Milw. College Prep - 38th
Universal Academy for
the College Bound

ART TEACHER

Collaborated with other specials teachers to provide sound, collaborative integrated instruction. Supported students in need of Tier Two ELA interventions during prep periods. Partnered with community stakeholders to bridge community and social justice art projects. Ensured student engagement by facilitating meaningful relationships with students in and outside of the classroom.

PERSONAL PROFILE

Symphony Swan-Zawadi stands out as a dynamic professional, boasting over 10+ years of leadership, art, and education expertise. She takes up space as a bold, visionary leader. She also demonstrates proficiency as an interdisciplinary artist and a dedicated community and arts advocate.

Symphony Swan-Zawadi is passionate about spearheading inventive, people-focused strategies to address challenges in the realms of belonging, equity, inclusion, and arts accessibility. Whether immersed in the educational landscape or the non-profit sector, Symphony steadfastly upholds her commitment to establishing culturally resonant and inclusive environments, ensuring they align seamlessly with the core mission, and fostering an atmosphere of acceptance for everyone involved.

A humble servant leader, Symphony embodies the ethos of relentless pursuit of excellence, not just for herself but for any team she leads. Her infectious blend of innovation, fun-loving spirit, and joyous demeanor undoubtedly contributes as a valuable asset to any collaborative endeavor.

Symphony Swan-Zawadi's work ethic is characterized by diligence, a perpetual thirst for learning, and an unwavering willingness to go above and beyond expectations.

Symphony D. Swan-Zawadi BFA, M.ED



EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

Bachelors of Fine Arts w/ Teacher Certification

CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY

Masters of Educational Leadership



SPECIALIZED TRAINING & EXPERIENCES

- BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBER, MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM, SIGNATURE DANCE COMPANY, BOARD CHAIR, LIFE REDEFINED.
- FOUNDER OF THE CR8TV NRGY HOUSE, INC. ART GALLERY AND STUDIOS
- CO-FOUNDER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR, BLANKSPACE MKE | 2015-PRESENT
- COFOUNDER OF CONSCIOUS COMMUNITY CURATORS, PARENTING COACHING AND CONSULTING COMPANY- MANAGE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM 2013-PRESENT
- CITY FORWARD COLLECTIVE, EMERGING LEADER 2017-2018
- GUEST LECTURER - CARDINAL STRITCH 2019, 2020 | RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

CONTACT INFO

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www.THECR8TVHOUSE.org

REFERENCES

Available Upon Request