

# Tana Hargest

Tel: 917-304-9321

E-mail: tanahargest@gmail.com

## Profile

From high-profile museums to start-up cooperatives, I advise stakeholders on change management, engage cross-disciplinary teams in emergent strategy, and implement projects to help grow mission-based programs, increase impact, and improve results.

## Professional Experience

### **Lead Artist and Co-Founder, Dark Matter Cooperative Network — 2017 to Present**

Dark Matter Cooperative Network cultivates curiosity into collective action. Two of the emerging co-ops in the network:

- Black Market, an artist-led public policy think tank focused on amplifying the voices of black creative change makers who use art to solve problems and build community.
- Build Co-op, A hybrid co-op focused on building the capacity of racial and social justice collectives, startup and established businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

### **Principal, Hargest Art Consulting — 2009 to Present**

A strategy, planning, and evaluation consulting practice focused on the intersections of culture, co-creation, and fund development. Provide strategic guidance and practical implementation plans for artists, small businesses, and organizations. Current and recent projects include:

- Developing an advancement plan to increase earned and contributed revenue for a New York-based charity working nationally to advance midwifery and improve maternal health.
- Facilitating DEI and culture change work with an 120 yr old Boston-based arts and crafts society of makers and arts small businesses.
- Developed and lead a learning trip to Jackson, MS for a group of cooperative business owners and organizers based in North Minneapolis.
- Provided interim leadership coaching and change management for MN's largest regional arts council.
- Evaluation of a two year pilot program developing a health and public art learning tool for city planners in rural and small SE MN cities.

### **Interdisciplinary Artist — 1997 to Present**

Selected exhibition venues include Mass MoCA; MIT's List Visual Art Center; and the Studio Museum in Harlem. Selected grants include Knight Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation; Jerome Foundation; NYSCA; and Creative Capital. Full artist résumé available on request.

### **Executive Director, Givens Foundation for African American Literature — 2014 to 2016**

Ensured the financial health, executed the mission and programs, and served as the chief spokesperson for the Minneapolis-based literary organization. Highlights include:

- Designed and launched givens.org, the Foundation's new website.
- Originated and produced Black Market Reads, the Foundation's weekly podcast.
- Curated and organized the Resistance and Rebellion Convening, bringing together 30 speakers and over 300 attendees to discuss the role of art in revolution.

### **Assistant Director, The Soap Factory — 2012 to 2014**

Responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of all fund development activities, including the solicitation of major and individual gifts, oversight of earned and contributed income generation, and pre-planning for the capital campaign. Highlights include:

- Led fund development strategy to secure \$125,000 for the installation of the HVAC system, providing climate control to the building for first time in the organization's 25 year history.
- Led development of audience engagement events generating \$60,000 in earned revenue and introducing over 4000 new visitors to the organization.

**Director of Education, American Craft Council; Minneapolis, MN — 2011 to 2012**

Delivered programs and services for the Council's global audience of professional contemporary fine craft practitioners, collectors, and members. Highlights include:

- Co-led the redesign of the Council's website, launched in January 2012.
- Authored the 3-year strategic plan.
- Solicited and secured \$450,000 gift from a major donor.

**Director, The Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts; New York, NY — 2008 to 2009**

Led all planning, budgeting, and operations for an operating foundation. Highlights include:

- Led complete redesign of the Foundation's website.
- Led strategic planning process, and authored 3-year plan.
- Oversaw maintenance and operations of the 12-story building in Midtown Manhattan.

**Director of Education and Public Programs, Art21, Inc.; New York, NY — 2007 to 2008**

Delivered web, arts education and public program initiatives for Art21's global audience. Highlights include:

- Led Art21's expansion from the PBS broadcast series to webcast video.
- Led all digital development, including the redesign of the PBS series' web site, and the development and launch of a website for the organization.
- Oversaw all aspects of interpretive materials production, including a 34-page guide for middle and high school educators, web content, screening guides, digital image sets, and brochures.

**Head of New Media Learning, The Museum of Fine Arts; Boston, MA — 2004 to 2007**

Developed the New Media Learning Program (NMLP), an expansion of the online, in-gallery, and studio-based learning opportunities. Highlights include:

- Developed an online learning resource for K-12 educators and students.
- Created extended online learning opportunities for lectures and courses participants.
- Developed a handheld multimedia guide prototype for the Musical Instruments collection.

**Assistant Curator of Education and New Media, The Bronx Museum of the Arts; Bronx, NY 2000 to 2003**

Co-led full spectrum of educational programming, serving a diverse urban audience. Highlights include:

- Guided development from concept to launch of BXMA.org, the Museum's first web site.
- Developed Studio LAB, a digital arts education program for youth, families, and adults.

**Additional Experience**

Cohort Member, Don't You Feel It Too? - 2019 to Present

Member, The Subversive Sirens - 2017 to Present

Cooperative Development Fellowship, Nexus Community Partners - 2019

Emergent Strategy Immersion, Twin Cities, Facilitator - 2019

Emergent Strategy Immersion, Detroit - 2018

North Star Black Cooperative Fellow, Nexus Community Partners - 2017

Creative Economy Fellow, Springboard for the Arts - 2016-2017

President, MacDowell Art Colony Fellows Executive Committee - 2009-2010

Member, MacDowell Art Colony Fellows Executive Committee - 2006-2009

**Education**

Master of Fine Art, Photography

Rhode Island School of Design, 1999

Bachelor of Fine Art, Media Arts

Minneapolis College of Art and Design, 1997