

Brilliance Jones

Houston, Texas | (936) 650-8109 | brilliancejones@gmail.com

Profile

Strategic Communications Director with 10 years of experience in partnerships and social impact work, seeking to guide organizations in developing the content and collateral that effectively communicates their people-centered values and beliefs with their internal and external audiences.

Education

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mass Communication – Emphasis in Public Relations
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY- Huntsville, Texas

December 2012

Skills

Strategic Communications, Storytelling as a Tool for Change, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Social Media Engagement, Community Engagement, Relationship Building, Change Management, Board Development, External Affairs, Program Leadership, Strategic Analysis, Curriculum Writing, Public Speaking, Portfolio Management, Urban School District Politics, Recruiting, Coaching, Organizational Development, Team Building, Negotiation Mediation.

Proficient in Google Suites, Slack, Asana, Zoom, Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Word), Canva, and Adobe programs.

Professional Experience

Virtual Chief of Staff (Contract - Remote)

09/2021 - Current

VCHIEF

Virtual, Remote

A virtual chief of staff service, supporting leaders from all sectors and domains who are looking for high-level strategic support but who don't need or may not have resources for a full-time staff member in the role.

- **Formation Ventures- Temporary Chief of Staff**

- Strategic external communications support, including a 6-week social media campaign and the development of a copy and content strategy tool for a budding social impact organization in San Antonio, TX.

Director, Catalytic Community Partnerships (Remote)

01/2021 - Current

TNTP

New York, New York

Managing and facilitating a nationwide, inter-generational, participatory research program formed to equitably disperse funding and resources to historically underserved communities working to address education policies in North Carolina, New Jersey, Alabama, Iowa, New York, and California.

- Captured and cataloged over 1200 digital stories from parents, students, and educators of color across all impacted regions.
- Created a framework for taking 8 partner organizations through a leadership development experience.
- Facilitated bi-weekly community workshops to guide participants in using a digital storytelling framework to advocate for campaigns that address the experiences that exist at the intersection of identity and the American Education System.
- Designed copy and content for all external collateral. Typical formats included executive and community presentation decks, progress reports, website, social media, email blasts, infographics, etc.
- Managed 1 Team Member.

Senior Consultant and Writer (Remote)

04/2018 - Current

BRIDGING ALLIES CONSULTING

Houston, Texas

Managing a portfolio inclusive of emerging small businesses and national non-profit organizations with a financial impact spanning \$200,000 to \$55 million annually. Providing expert diversity, racial equity, and inclusion support to organizations in strategic ideation, narrative restructuring, and project management.

- **KJ Consulting Group - Content Writer and Facilitation Coach**

- Developed an online DEI learning course for higher education professionals to promote institutional aspirations to meet new DEIB and anti-racism standards in order to increase enrollment and matriculation of underrepresented student groups.

- **Education PowerED - Facilitation Consultant, Podcast Host**

- Designed and facilitated virtual professional development sessions on culturally relevant and responsive teaching practices for over 200 primary and secondary grade level educators and administrative staff.
- Co-Hosted the Education Power Hour, a weekly conversation on current events and topics relevant to young educators of color. 40% increase in online engagement.

- **The Afiya Center - Consultant, Copy and Content Writer**
 - Co-wrote a published chapter on The Afiya Center, a Black Womxn’s Reproductive Justice organization in Dallas, Texas, for “A War on my Body: A War on my Rights,” This highly anticipated book features national reproductive health leaders, activists, and stories from women and girls impacted by the current reproductive health discourse.
 - Wrote and developed the 2022 State of Black Womxn in Texas Report, a comprehensive report unveiled at the Bi-annual Texas Black Womxn Rise Up Summit, hosted in Dallas, Texas. Published for circulation in May of 2022.
 - Legislative reports and briefings, community impact statements, and event promotional materials
- **TNTP – Consultant**
 - Facilitated in-person digital storytelling workshops at the “1619 Freedom School” in Waterloo, Iowa, and “The Current Ball” in New York, New York.
 - Developed the “We Are The Dream” website, marketing content, and social media engagement plan in conjunction with “Catalytic Communities,” a multi-regional community resource project.

Managing Director, Community and Stakeholder Engagement

07/2019 - 08/2020

TEACHING TRUST

Dallas, Texas

Pioneered partnerships with local family and student-focused community organizations, including the National Coalition for Family Learning, school board oversight groups, and community-based direct impact organizations. These partnerships and the qualitative data they provided directly assisted in overhauling our program and curriculum redesign to increase cultural competence and establish a culture of social awareness and advocacy.

- Developed an organization reform strategy to redefine community inclusive and culturally competent engagement for a school leadership development non-profit organization serving one of the largest school districts in Texas.
- Represented Teaching Trust's DEI Task Force in external learning opportunities, including "Soulful Justice" Racial Identity Development, The Racial Equity Institute Learning Sessions, and the Dallas Truth Racial Healing and Transformation Cohort
- Facilitated DEI evaluation, training, and restorative circles amongst staff, leadership, and board of directors to create a high functioning, non-volatile environment during organizational reform.

Manager of Development

07/2016 - 06/2019

ONEGOAL

Houston, Texas

Directed and executed the full grant management cycle, including research, planning, proposal writing, submission processes, stewardship of program officers and directors, and expertly managing all reporting for a multi-regional non-profit organization.

- Raised \$1.4M in Fiscal Year 2017 and \$1.5 M in Fiscal Year 2018 for the Houston Region
- Conducted an analysis of the regional pipelines to identify gaps in diversity and create cultivation and stewardship plans to increase the presence of people of color, women, and non-technical professional backgrounds of influence on the Board of Directors and Junior Advisory Board
- Hosted in-school career visioning sessions for students with high-level companies, including Deloitte and ATT.
- Established an internship program with Plains All American Human Resources, ATT Office of External Affairs, and a collegiate success partnership with Sam Houston State University to increase postsecondary persistence and matriculation for low-income students of color in the Houston Region

Head Foreign English Teacher, Contract

10/2014 - 06/2016

AVALON ENGLISH ACADEMY

Incheon, South Korea

- Led student and teacher engagement and managed foreign teacher full-cycle recruitment and hiring processes (including virtual interviews, contract negotiations, travel logistics, government compliance checklists, and support in acclimation to local culture).
- Coached teachers in best practices for creating positive, culturally affirming, and immersive classroom experiences.

Regional Admissions Counselor, Undergraduate Admissions

03/2013 – 10/2014

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Huntsville, Texas

Successfully transformed recruiting practices to increase enrollment and persistence of underrepresented student populations at Sam Houston State University.

- Worked with a small cross-functional team to lead Diversity and Inclusion training on campus.
- Created a coaching protocol to support educators serving at schools with high low-moderate income populations by providing individual and group coaching sessions on changes in state-wide admissions policies
- Facilitated financial aid training and developed MOUs and data sharing agreements with high schools and community colleges that allowed us to provide prescriptive student transitional support.