

CONTACT

Chiwuzo@yahoo.com

(678)-662-8889

EDUCATION

Master of Arts. Arts Administration Savannah College of Art and Design (6/2009 - 3/2012)

Bachelor of Arts, Marketing Georgia State University, Atlanta GA (6/1998 - 12/2002)

OBJECTIVE

Detailed oriented events and arts management professional, seeking a high-level position to maximize ten years of experience.

SKILLS

- Customer Service
- Individual and Group Sales
- Event Management
- Fundraising
- Microsoft Suite
- Professional Writing
- Writing for Social Media
- Audience Development
- Online Media & Database
- Management (Constant Contact)

C. IFE OKWUMABUA

Arts Marketing and Events Manager

TEACHING & TRAINING EXPERIENCE

Youth Ensemble of Atlanta

Award winning African American Youth Theater Company that empowers young people ages 8 to 24.

- SAT (Saturday Arts Program) Theater Teacher
- City of Atlanta Arts Program Teacher

Arthritis Foundation

- 2020 Specialists for Arthritis Foundation Systems Train and guide peers who have questions on key computer programs. Selected for being knowledgeable of a variety of Arthritis Foundation systems.

- 2020 Yes! Champion Staff Ambassador Program An envoy of the department who is trained in the structure, culture, mission and values or the organization who is committed to helping the Arthritis Foundation staff be successful.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Arthritis Foundation. Atlanta GA

Market Relations Coordinator, 1/2016 - present

Provides logistical and administrative support to market level fundraising initiatives within the assigned market in an effort to achieve the event fundraising goals. Interfaces with event participants, donors, volunteers and corporations. Plans event logistics, recruits and supports participants and teams for the Walk to Cure Arthritis and Jingle Bell Run/Walk.

*Events Planned and/or Managed

- 2016 Walk to Cure Arthritis Broward County Florida
- 2017 Jingle Bell Run 5k Charleston, South Carolina
- 2018 Bone Bash, Nashville (Greater Giving/Registration Desk)
- 2018 Jingle Bell Run 5k, New Orleans (Onsite Management)
- LEAP Volunteer Program Manager and Volunteer Training

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The Youth Ensemble of Atlanta (YEA), Atlanta, GA Management Associate, 5/2006 - 8/2012

Sales and Marketing - Created Press releases, public service announcements, and managed online marketing database for various productions. Cultivated and managed group sales accounts for children's shows which resulted in five years of repeat patronage. Fostered relationships with prospective customers through personal selling which increased overall customer accounts. Designed and implemented marketing strategies.

Program Development – Development and implementation of Intern program. Created guidelines, application packet, and registration process. Intern Program has successfully produced three theatrical productions and serves as an educational resource for aspiring theater professionals in Metro Atlanta.

Program Management – Managed scholarship recipient program. Facilitated and managed annual auditions. Increased company membership resulting in over 100 youth served annually.

*Awards - New Generations Arts Management Mentorship Program (Theatre Communications Group), 2006

THE RITZ-CARLTON, BUCKHEAD, ATLANTA, GA

Catering Sales Coordinator, 6/2003 - 5/2006

Event Management – Coordinated small meetings and events. Scheduled meeting space, serviced events, and ensured adequate staffing for events. Worked with customers and maintained good relations throughout the selling and planning process.

Group Sales- Provided excellent customer service, contract negotiations, and customer follow up. Increased overall sales for catering team by 10% by successfully selling and servicing functions 20 people or less.

International Sales Office - Six month marketing research sales internship that was extended for an additional year due to success with booking business with inactive clients.

- Conducted market research to increase sales opportunities
- Managed and serviced customer accounts
- Managed and serviced Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company Clientele database
- Coordinated preparation for Tradeshows

^{*}Awards - Five Star Employee Award (The Ritz Carlton, Buckhead), 2004

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FREELANCE POSITIONS

United Way, Regional Commission on Homelessness - Vets Performing Arts Program Coordinator and Contractor, April 2015 - November 2015 - Project manager and arts consultant for the Vets Connect Performing Arts Program (VCPA) that provided arts training to Veterans. Responsible for coordinating and managing VCPA which included solidifying workshop facility, planning rehearsals, developing the workshop outline, registering vets, and finding teaching artists. Also, I worked on special projects as assigned by the RCOH staff.

C4 Atlanta - Event Sales Contractor, April 2014 - November 2015 - Generated revenue by responding to and generating new event leads through cold calls, incoming calls and e-mails. Excellent customer service skills yielded repeat bookings. Responsible for managing and servicing assigned events. Provided clients onsite assistance with setup and overall support throughout duration of the event.

Showcase Group - Producer, Showcase Awards, 2014-2017- Provided overall production and event management services for the 2014 – 2017 Showcase Awards.

Alternate Roots - Line Producer (Contractor), Roots Lounge Live, July 2014 - September 2014 - Coordinated event schedule. Liaised with event artists and participants. Liaised with the venue and Alternate ROOTS. Manged and directed the event on September 30th in Atlanta, GA.

Trey Anthony Studios - Associate Producer, 'da Kink in My Hair, June 2013 - September 2013 - Supported the Executive Producer/playwright on the overall planning, organizing, management and staffing of the musical production, 'da Kink in My Hair which included budgeting, scheduling work, and coordinating the various production departments.

Zulu Sofola Productions - Producer, Wedlock of the Gods Atlanta, November 2012 - June 2013 -Created strategic plan for clients. Developed budget and fundraising goals. Implemented marketing strategies to promote the theatrical production Wedlock of the Gods.

Giwayen Mata African Dance Company - Producing Associate, Dance Africa Atlanta, November 2012 - June 2013 - Production associate for Dance Africa Atlanta 2013. Supported the Executive Producer and Giwayen Mata African Dance Company on the overall planning, organizing, and management of Dance Africa.

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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS & EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- C4 Atlanta Ignite Program Scholarship recipient of an eight-week training seminar for creative individuals aiming to develop a sustainable business plan.
- Metro Atlanta Arts & Culture Coalition (MAACC) Emerging Arts Leaders of Metro Atlanta - Member
- Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts Member Service Council Secretary
- Network of Ensemble Theatres Planning Committee for the 2010 Micro Fest in Atlanta, GA
- Big Brothers Big Sisters, Atlanta, GA Public Relations/ Marketing Intern
- Dave and Buster, Atlanta Management Intern, GA
- Georgia State University Alumni Association, Atlanta GA Telemarketing
- Georgia State University Student Leadership
- TheaRadical, Black Student Theatre Ensemble- President/Marketing Manager
 - Orchestrated marketing for yearly productions, acquired sponsorship from University and increased funds for advertising
- **GSU Players Theatre Troupe** Front of House Management Handled box office and ticket sales, planned opening night receptions and special events
- GSU Cultural Event Planning Committee- Board Member
 - Collaborated with board members on creating cultural events for the student body and co-produced the Unity Arts Assembly that featured newscaster Brenda Woods as the guest speaker.

PRODUCTION WORK

PRODUCING AND DIRECTING

Carnival Medea Production Producer/Management **United Way Producer** Songs for Adaeze **Producer Showcase Awards** Producer **Roots Lounge Live** Line Producer Stage Management Carnival Medea Production Carnival Medea Reading Stage Management Producer 'da Kink in My Hair Wedlock of the Gods Producer

Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2015 Vets Performing Arts Connect 2015 Chi Ife Productions 2015 Showcase Group, 2014 Alternate Roots, 2014 Georgia State University, 2014 Georgia State University, 2014 Trey Anthony Studios, 2013

Zulu Sofola Productions, 2013

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Dance Africa Atlanta Producing Associate Stage Management Mother to Mother Stage Management Mother to Mother Conversations with Cinderella?! Producer

Director/Producer The Artist Party Co-Director Sisterprenuer The Maestro Director

F-Rated Night Fever Director/Co-Producer

Director

The Artist Factory Producer Luminosity Producer **Capital Punishment** Producer !?Cinderella?! Producer Making a Way Producer No Regrets Producer Shakin' the Mess Outta Producer

Misery

Don't Bother Me, Producer Georgia State University, 2000

Charlene

Big Mama

I Can't Cope

B2B V103-FSO Show

ACTING

Conversations with Cinderella?! Stepmother Publix Voiceover Anita Siteseer Challenge Online Show TEAM O The Talent Zone Show Co-host Beneath the Surface Angel Jekonni's Song Nightmare Ringleader

Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope Shakin the Mess out of Misery

Cinderella

Stepmother **Kunst Festival in Belgium** Ensemble **Psalm Thirteen** Shaka Times Bridget Soweto Soweto Melinia Roberta School House Rocks Love Variations Pixy

Cabaret Chorus/Ensemble

SONGWRITING

Songs for Adaeze Conversations with Cinderella?!

!?Cinderella?! Luminosity No Regrets The Maestro Jeremy and the Lie Jekonni's Song

War is on The Streets Times

Psalm Thirteen

Lyricist/Co- Composer Lyricist/Co- Composer

Lyricist/Composer Lyricist/Composer Contributing Songwriter Lyricist/Composer Contributing Songwriter Contributing Songwriter

Lyricist

Contributing Songwriter Contributing Songwriter Georgia State University, 2012 Matlock Advertising and PR, 2008

Giwayen Mata African Dance, 2013

The Atlanta Legends Inc. Ball, 2007

B2B Clothing Company USA, 2004 Farrago / Anaya Couture, 2004

Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 2005

Georgia State University, 2003 Georgia State University, 2002

Concerned Black Clergy, 2002

Georgia State University, 2001

Georgia State University, 2001

Georgia State University, 2001

Georgia State University, 2000

Georgia State University, 2013

Georgia State University, 2012 Chi-Ife Productions, 2011

Africa Atlanta Festival, 2013

Delta Airlines/ American Express, 2007 Capital Medial Productions, 2006

Atlanta Workshop Players, 2003 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 2002

Black Student Theatre Ensemble, 2000 Black Student Theatre Ensemble, 2000

Black Student Theatre Ensemble, 2001 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1999 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1998 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1997 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1997 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1996 Ed Montgomery Productions, 1996

Georgia State University, 1999

Chi Ife Productions 2015

Georgia State University, 2012 Georgia State University, 2001 Georgia State University, 2002 Georgia State University, 2001 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 2005 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 2007 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 2002

Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 2006 Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1997

Youth Ensemble of Atlanta, 1998

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TRAINING

Southwest Performing Arts C enter Atlanta Acting Andrea Frye **Expressions Theatre Company** Caden Noble Acting

Walt Disney Musical Theatre Workshop National Blacks Arts Festival Musical Theater LA Summer program

TVI Actors Studio Acting/Film

AWARDS AND HONORS

Third Place Irene Ryan Scholarship - American College Theatre Festival Career Enrichment Award/Scholarship -TVI Actors Studio Best Overall Soap Opera winner - January 2006 Millie Lewis Convention 2nd Place commercial winner - January 2006 Millie Lewis Convention

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

"Cinderella on the Rise: Bridging Fields via a Black Princess." Engaging Multiple Publics Conference. Submitted Panel. Northwestern University-Chicago, IL, 2012.

"(Re)dressing Black Feminisms in Fairytales: Black Women Empowerment via a Black Princess: Cinderella." The Conference on the Black Experience. Panel. Paine College- Augusta, GA, 2012.

"(Re)membering !? Cinderella ?!: Embodying a Black Princess on the Page & on the Stage." New Voices: Bodies of Influence Conference. Panel. Georgia State University- Atlanta, GA, 2012.