

Veronica Agard



Veronica Agard (Ifáṣadùn Fásanmí)

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Objective

Sharpen curatorial skills, grow as a professional speaker, and facilitate sites of healing

Education

BA in International Studies, Concentration: Culture and Communication, Minor: History
CUNY City College of New York, New York, NY, 2014

Experience

Freelance Cultural Organizer - Vera Icon, LLC (New York) 2017 - Present

- > Creating written works and marketing materials to support all creative projects including mass mailings, presentations, press kits, graphic and logo design, and social media posts
- > Managing legal aspects, including reporting, invoices, trademarking, filing incorporation
- > Partnering with peer organizers, institutions, and universities to deliver dynamic and engaging talks, circles, and panel discussions

Co-Founder - Sister Circle Collective (New York) 2012 - 2017

- > Coordinated 50 self-empowerment workshops focusing on holistic healing, wellness, women and gender studies, and healing through writing
- > Executed grassroots organizing activities to raise awareness on gender justice issues occurring on the City College of New York (CUNY) campus, organizing sit-ins, tabling, and media outreach on the need for a Gender Resource Center
- > Led logistics for events centering diverse communities of women and femmes of color, facilitating circle support spaces, presentations, and conferences
- > Analyzed data to guide and support the maintenance of the organization's digital profile with a reach of 2,000 people, utilizing Facebook analytics to evaluate gender, age, and location.
- > Led collaborative programming, including events such as 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence, Feminists On The Move contingent with AF3IRM at Millions March NYC

Skills and Attributes

Cultural competency and awareness, community organizing, dynamic facilitation, empathy, graphic design (Canva), project management, grant writing, event production, Digital technologies: Meta (Facebook and Instagram), Google Suite, Microsoft Suite, Website design and management (Squarespace, WordPress), basic Spanish and Portuguese

Projects

Ancestors in Training (2017-Present)

- > Facilitating panel discussions and curated healing spaces (virtually and in-person), cultivating social media presence, designing all social media graphics, logos, and materials, managing a mailing list, supporting and guiding an intern
- > Expanding the audience and broadening the reach of Ancestors in Training through strategic collaborations and genuine content, which has over 6k followers on Instagram alone
- > Appearing on aligned podcasts, written media, and interviews

Who Heals the Healer (2018-2020, on hiatus)

- > Expanded the project to include circles, and a culminating "Who Heals the Healer" conference with over 200 attendees, 30 vendors, and 16 presenters and received a grant from the Brooklyn Arts Council to contribute to the funding of the project (2019)

Selected Presentations

- "Writing with the Ancestors" Show Don't Tell Symposium, Jun 2023
- "Sustaining Our Joy: Tending to Ourselves + Our Legacies" University of Wisconsin, Apr 2023
- "Ancestors in Training: Sustainable Legacies" Ijeruka, Radical Hope Course, Mar 2023
- "Writing with Ancestors" Black Joy x Reckon, January 2023
- "Collective Healing Immersive Experience" Decolonizing Therapy, Ontario Ministries, Dec 2022
- "Joy As Praxis" Denison University, Apr 2022
- "Creating Cultures of Healing" Temple University, Apr 2022
- "Ancestors in Training" El Museo del Barrio, Oct 2020
- "Spirituality and the Black Psyche" IMAHI panel discussion, Oct 2020
- Ancestors in Training Residency, Ethel's Club, Spring 2020
- "Us Too, Nosotrxs Tambien" with Shaira Chaer, Nov 2018
- Ancestors in Training Residency, CCCADI, July-Sept 2018
- "Joy Out of The Fire" Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Nov 2018
- "Ancestors in Training" Mystic Soul Conference, June 2018
- "Demystifying Healing Justice" Critical Ethnic Studies Association Conference, Jun 2018

Awards and Testimonials

- Healing Practices for Grief, Reclamation Ventures, 2022 (Ancestors in Training)
- Brooklyn Arts Fund, Brooklyn Arts Council, 2019 (Who Heals the Healer)
- Community Grant, Citizens Committee NYC, 2015, 2016 (Sister Circle Collective)

"This was a really lovely experience Veronica held the space beautifully for people to feel safe enough to share which made the experience more rich, especially in a virtual space where people did not know each other. I think that says a lot about Veronica and her energy!"

"I had the good fortune, as Director of the International Studies program at CCNY, to collaborate with Veronica as leader of the Student Association for International Studies (SAIS). I can attest that Veronica is a dynamic and committed leader and skillful motivator and team builder."

"I've had the honor of attending an Ancestors in Training workshop and watching as Veronica inspired attendees across generations, geographies, and identities to share what care looks like in their cultures, and thread these stories together into a collective narrative embracing sameness, difference, and everything in between."

Affiliations and Memberships

Associated Artist - Culture Push (New York) 2023 - 2024

Speakers Series - End Rape On Campus (Washington, DC) 2022 - Present

Board Member - Institute for the Development of Human Arts (New York) 2021 - Present

Selected Press

www.veronicaagard.com/links