# AED

## Contact

⊠ ameliatellsstories@gmail.com

## Education

MASTER OF FINE ARTS, CREATIVE WRITING Columbia College Chicago 2021-2023

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION (DEI) CERTIFICATION Northwestern University 2021

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, ART HISTORY Illinois State University 1993

## Skills

INTERACTIVE LECTURES

ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

COMMUITY BUILDING

CANVAS ONLINE COURSE MANAGEMENT

INCLUSIVE CLASSROOM DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

## About me

A versatile educator committed to building connections through teaching writing from the classroom into the real world, as well as building bridges from the past to the present. Demonstrated expertise in creating a curriculum that is stimulating and encouraging to students.

## Work Experience

GRADUATE STUDENT INSTRUCTOR, GRADUATE ASSISTANT Columbia College Chicago | 2021-2023

- Instructed first year students as a writing instructor, teaching Writing & Rhetoric.
- Contributed to the English & Creative Writing department as a graduate assistant, supporting marketing efforts for DEI initiatives such as Listening to Indigenous Voices and the Efroymson Creative Writing Reading Series.

### FOUNDER/WRITER/PRODUCER

Corn Bred Films | 2013 - Present

Established a Chicago-based production company, leading and overseeing all aspects of film projects

- Established a Chicago-based production company, leading and overseeing all aspects of film projects.
- "Oriole Park" Finalist for the 2017 International Sundance Screenwriter's Lab and winner of the 2015 Chicago International Film Festival's inaugural pitch competition (Role: writer and producer).
- "Other Plans" Released on VOD, starring comedian Jamie Kennedy (Role: writer and producer).
- "Love Under Fire: The Story of Bertha & Potter Palmer" Aired on PBS Station WTTW Chicago, finalist for the 2014 Women's International Film Festival (Role: writer, director, producer).
- "Red, White & Blue: A Tale of Two Americas" Documentary exploring the political landscape (Role: writer, director, producer).



ACCOUNT/PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR Flowers Communications Group | 2020-2021 Developed strategic plans and provided public relations, media relations, and copywriting services for renowned brands including Mondelez International, ComEd, Famous Amos -Ferrara Candy Company, Foot Locker, and CAFECS. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS Camelot Illinois | 2019-2020 Led a virtual inter-departmental COVID-19 Crisis Team for the Illinois Lottery, overseeing communication efforts across marketing, social media, player hot-line, responsible gaming, and product management. Developed and executed strategic communication initiatives to promote new ticket launches, Lottery events, community partnerships, large jackpots, and the Lottery's positive impact on public education throughout Illinois. Implemented weekly public relations metrics using Meltwater's mScore Report to measure reach, tonality, and press hits, facilitating effective communication with the Camelot executive team and the State of Illinois. STORYTELLER/BRAND STRATEGIST ODEA | 2018-2019 Collaborated with family-owned business-to-business companies to develop and execute brand strategies, with a focus on content creation for SEO efforts and overseeing public relations activities. Crafted compelling brand narratives, including campaigns such as "World without Glue" for Chicago Glue and Machine, and a "Superheroes" campaign for Argiannas & Associates Successfully executed a holiday social media campaign for the launch of five new Magna-Tiles products. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS Agency 360 | 2016-2018 Spearheaded public relations efforts for an agency specializing in the restaurant, entertainment, and sports industries. Developed and implemented effective media strategies and plans, secured press coverage, and managed client and media relationships. Established internal structures and systems to efficiently handle 15+ clients, including Aurelio's Pizza, Carnivale, Q-BBQ, Chicago Steel Hockey, and Decision One Dental. Secured and produced national and local television and radio segments, including a TODAY SHOW segment featuring celebrity Chef Bobby Flay.



### DIRECTOR OF MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

National Hellenic Museum | 2014-2016

- Directed and oversaw marketing and public relations programs for the museum.
- Developed an integrated marketing plan targeting local and national communities and tourists.
- Elevated the museum's national and international exposure through effective promotion of events, exhibitions, and community programs.
- Established the infrastructure for an in-house public relations program.

#### FOUNDER

#### AED Communications | 2007-2014

Established and managed a marketing communications firm, specializing in providing customized marketing, public relations, and social media strategies to a diverse clientele, including corporations, non-profit organizations, and entrepreneurs. Demonstrated proficiency in sourcing new business opportunities, proposal writing, and client account management. Employed a hands-on approach, overseeing the full life cycle of marketing and communication projects.

- Successfully launched AED Communications, cultivating relationships with clients across various sectors including corporate entities and non-profit organizations.
- Devised and executed strategic marketing communications plans tailored to individual client needs, including branding, public relations, and social media campaigns.
- Notably served non-profit organizations such as Mercy Home for Boys & Girls, League of Chicago Theatres, Arts & Business Council of Chicago, Friends of the Parks, IFP Chicago, Common Threads, and The 19th Century Club of Chicago, amplifying their missions and facilitating community engagement.
- Delivered comprehensive account management, ensuring customer satisfaction, and fostering long-term client relationships.
- Authored persuasive proposals that successfully secured new business opportunities, contributing to the firm's growth.
- Led creative and data-driven marketing campaigns for corporate clients including Berghoff Restaurant, WorldFinds, C2 Creative, and others, enhancing their market presence and achieving business objectives.

# AED

### ACCOUNT SUPERVISOR

Chafee Group | 2005-2006

Provided comprehensive leadership and management for client accounts and campaigns, with a strong focus on innovation, community engagement, and cost-effective strategies at a boutique marketing firm.

- Developed and spearheaded an innovative community outreach program for KeyBank, specifically targeting Millennials, that enhanced the bank's reputation and customer base in this demographic segment.
- Conceived and implemented a thought leadership promotion campaign for RSMR Global Resources, celebrating their 10th anniversary, which effectively positioned the firm as an industry leader.
- Designed and executed a search engine marketing campaign for a recruiting firm, increasing their online visibility and lead generation.
- Ensured the delivery of excellent client service by providing creative solutions that adhered to budget constraints.
- Managed day-to-day operations of assigned accounts, monitoring and optimizing campaigns, and producing analytical reports for clients.
- Led and nurtured internal account teams, fostering collaboration and skills development.
- Contributed significantly to securing new business opportunities by crafting compelling proposals and delivering engaging presentations to potential clients.

### DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

League of Chicago Theatres | 2003-2005

Directed and oversaw the marketing and public relations programs for non-profit business and marketing association comprised of 170 member theaters.

- Orchestrated and successfully launched the city-wide Theater Thursday program within an ambitious six-week timeframe, increasing community engagement and visibility for member theaters.
- Pioneered the organization's first comprehensive marketing strategy and plan, laying the foundation for sustained growth and brand positioning within the Chicago theater community.
- Conceived and executed innovative sponsorship programs, raising over \$25,000 in revenue, which bolstered the financial position and program capabilities of the organization.
- Developed branding standards and guidelines, ensuring a cohesive and professional brand image for the League, contributing to its reputation and recognition.
- Led the marketing campaigns for key programs including Hot Tix, chicagoplays.com, Chicago Plays Magazine and Theatre Guide, and co-op ad sales, effectively promoting the organization and its services.
- Provided strategic marketing support across the organization, aligning marketing efforts with the mission and goals of the League, and enhancing member services and engagement.