

Professional Experience

April 2012 — Current

Self Employed/Contractual, New York, NY

Shades Of Color, www.ShadesGifts.com

— Christmas Boxed Cards 2014 Product Development

— Art Direction, Conceptualization, Product Styling, Branding and Marketing

— Current initiatives: Web concept and design. Developing strategies to do effective imagery and marketing to the aging.

October 2010 — December 2011

Marketing Coordinator

Wolf-Gordon, Long Island City, NY 1110

— Marketing Coordinator assistant. Support to marketing, preparations of product samples, promotional tools and materials for the showroom and sales force.

October 2006 — January 2010

Ambassador/Customer Service

Tiffany and Company Flagship, New York, NY 10022

— Interface with sales professionals. Also responsible for customer assistance with inquires and purchases during their visit to this renowned establishment.

October 2004 — October 2008

Retail Sales

The Container Store The Original Store of Organization and Storage, New York NY 1001

— As a sales professional, at the 10 year Fortune 500 *Best Companies to Work*, my role and responsibilities were to make the customers shopping experience extraordinary. All employees assumed a personal ownership by assuming various roles: sales, cashier, merchandising, product demonstrations and presentations, also fulfillment and replenishments.

May 2003 — May 2007

Real Estate Agent

Anita Fischer Realty LLC, New York, NY 10036

Real estate rentals and sales in all five boroughs of New York

September 2005 — December 2005

Professor

School of Visual Arts 209 East 23rd St. New York, NY 10010-3994

— *Fashion Illustration and Beyond* The exploration of illustration and it's applications with fashion flair relevant to today's marketplace, marketing and advertisement.

— Student body: College juniors and seniors

— Accomplishments: Spearheaded a project for the students where their works were exhibited with retail *Stuart Weitzman*.

— Coordinated the opportunity to access leading fashion and design resource, WGSN a leading worldwide resource that tracks the latest in fashion, art and design, interiors, home decor, color trends.

January 2005 — June 2005

Art Educator

Thurgood Marshall Academy of Learning and Social Change

200-214 W 135th St, New York, NY 10030

— Teaching art and design appreciation. Also creative principles to middle and high school students.

March 2004 — January 2005

Interim Executive Director

Harlem Textile Works, 62 Hamilton Terrace New York, NY 10030

— Daily operations and executive duties, grant writing and developing creative projects. Also product development initiatives for inner city youth aged 15 - 20 years old.

— Curation and art direction of *Harlem Renewal & Renaissance* an exhibition of collages examining the imagery, spirit and icons of Harlem. The works of renowned artist *Romare Bearden* inspired these works. The exhibition was held at the Manhattan Borough president's office 1 Center Street 19th floor New York, NY 10007. The opening was December 14 - 31, 2005. The mission of this organization is to work with urban youth and young adults to offer creative and cultural enrichment.

October 1990 — March 2002

Senior Product Designer

Hallmark Cards Inc, 2501 McGee Street, Kansas City, MO 64108

In the 12 years working at Hallmark, I collaborated with the immense talents to develop products for programs as Precious Moments, Keepsakes Ornaments, Everyday and Seasonal cards. A career achievement was the expansion of *Mahogany* the African American card selection. This program began as a 2ft selection of cards and now amasses over 600 stock numbers of cards, gift-wrap and an array of other gift able products for the target consumer. My zeal and commitment led to many public acknowledgements: published in the Wall Street Journal, Kansas City Pitch Weekly, Dallas Examiner and the Village Voice.

January 1987 — October 1990

Designer / Studio Manager

Concord Fabrics, 1430 Broadway Suite 1503 New York, NY 10018

— Successfully created and designed original patterns, repeats and colorings for women, children and home decor. Categories included: over the counter goods, tabletops, and engineered designs. My duties entailed studio manager, supplies, inventory and billing preparations. Key contact for product development and advertising relevant to the vendors. Concord Fabrics continues to be the leading manufacturer of polyester and circular knits and fleece in the USA.

Early Works 1979 to 1987

A recent HBO documentary, *Schmatta: Rags to Riches to Rags*

<http://www.hbo.com/documentaries/schmatta-rags-to-riches-to-rags/index.html>

— Depicts a perspicuous portrayal of the vibrancy once embodied by *Seventh Avenue* New York's garment district and industry. Employment here provided an opportunity for my development and growth, both creatively and personally.

Converters, Manufacturers Importing - Exporting and Design Studios are venues of past employment. M. Lowenstein and Sons, Guliford Mills, Hale Fabrics and Andover Togs are few establishments of my early employment. Some of these businesses still exist, others defunct. The attached document discusses the garment Industry today and outlook for the future.

<http://www.slideshare.net/MASNYC/fashioning-the-future-nycs-garment-district>

Parson School of Design — Illustration, School of Art, Media and Technology

Hochshule der Kunste, Berlin Germany

— Advanced study in drawing and painting.

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, <http://www.kauffman.org>

— Referred to as one of the largest foundations devoted to entrepreneurship in the United States - and the world at large.

Activities & Honors

DIFFA — Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS, <http://www.diffa.org>

Co-Chair

— Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS is one of the country's largest supporters of direct care for people living with HIV/AIDS and preventative education for those at risk. Merging care and commerce, supporters of DIFFA come from all fields of fine design and visual arts. This event now held across the country, had its beginnings in Kansas City, Missouri. To date, the event has granted over \$40 million to hundreds of AIDS and service organizations nationwide.

The Heartland Men's Chorus, <http://www.hmckc.org>

Board Member

— The Heartland Men's Chorus provides excellence in performance while advancing men's chorus music, building community and reaching out to diverse audiences.

Exhibits, Presentations and Campaigns

— *Soulful Expressions* Curated exhibition of eleven African-American artists living in the Kansas City metropolitan area that assembled works in efforts to share with the community their aesthetic expressions. The multimedia work showcase included: photography, paintings, drawings, quilts, sculpture and furniture.

— *Quest for the Best A* A presentation on African-American imagery seen on Hallmark products. This presentation examined and explained how, when and why African-American representation appeared on products that are both past and present. It also investigates the symbolism about what is socially acceptable.

Patient and Family Advisory Council 2013, New York Presbyterian Hospital Volunteer

Strathmore's 2013 Who's Who Registry & Global Network for Executives and Professionals

Organization of Black Designers (OBD), <http://www.obd.org>

— "The mission of the Organization of Black Designers is to enhance and improve the totality of American design professions by emerging them with creativity and diversity" - David Rice Founder and CEO

Conference Panelist

— Featured in the International Who's Who of Professional Management, Subject in an article *The Wall Street Journal Workspaces* July 16, 1997. Articles: Village Voice, Dallas Examiner, Kansas City Star, The Pitch Weekly and the New Jersey Courier.

Computer Skills

Adobe Creative Suite

— Photoshop: CS5 and CS6

— Illustrator: CS5 and CS6

— InDesign: CS5

— Lightroom: CS5 and CS6

Microsoft Office:

— Word

— Power Point

— Excel

— Outlook (Entourage)