

JANET GOLDNER

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A seasoned multi-sector development professional with over 20 years experience in Africa. Specializing in Community Empowerment, Conflict Resolution, Capacity Building, CVE with a focus on culture. Working with local people in the field for needs assessment and developing creative, sustainable, appropriate solutions combining local and international knowledge systems and methodologies.

Develop and manage collaborative projects with diverse partners and multidisciplinary, multiethnic teams to promote: Democracy and Governance, Education, Health, Small Business Development / Livelihoods, Women's Empowerment and Leadership, Youth, Culture.

- Community Empowerment
- Conflict Resolution
- Capacity Building
- Project development
- Project management
- Training and Workshop Direction and Facilitation
- Communications and Documentation-Writing, Photography, Video

Nationality: American

Languages: English, French, Some Bamanankan

Between projects, time is spent researching, gathering resources, preparing necessary materials, collaborating, developing relationships with other professionals to expand the scope of future initiatives.

USAID-OTI / AECOM, Mali

January - December 2014

Consultant, Workshop Director / Facilitator

- Selected to direct, manage, facilitate a workshop for 25 professional Malian artists on the themes of Peace, Reconciliation, Social Cohesion
- Recruited 3 longtime local partners / collaborators
- Reviewed applications, interviewed and selected candidates
- Determined and procured all materials and supplies at project outset and throughout the project
- Provided resources and support throughout the 3 week workshop
- Produced, Installed exhibition in 2 locations; produced invitations and posters, held opening receptions that included local officials, the American ambassador, the press and the local cultural community
- Photographed workshop process for inclusion in the catalog
- Supervised print and online catalog designer remotely

Institute of International Education / Fulbright, Zimbabwe

October - November 2012

Senior Specialist, Workshop Director

- Conceived, created, delivered *Inside Out: Writing Workshop for Artists*, a 3-week creativity seminar that encourages professional growth
- Mentored 15 artists in a collaborative installation for 2 weeks
- Delivered 4 lectures at art schools, universities, museums

Association of Mali Women Artists, Bamako, Mali

July 2004- October 2011

Consultant / Fundraiser

Part-time

- Developed long term relationships with Malian women artists during annual visits
- Fundraised through innovative outreach to colleagues in the US
- Collaborated on the production and presentation of an elegant, well publicized exhibition; opening reception included local cultural community and government officials
- Provided ongoing mentoring and support

Alys Stephens Center, University of Alabama, Birmingham

March - November 2011

Project Manager

Part-time

- Recruited to develop and facilitate week long cultural encounter between the quilters from Gees Bend and the Group Bogolan Kasobane from Mali
- Established contact between the University and the Malians
- Negotiated and facilitated contracts, air transport, visas, shipping and sales
- Served as language and cultural translator as well as lecturer during the project

MaliWatch / Private Donors, Sikasso, Mali

November 2010 - February 2011

Project originator, Documentation

- Originated, developed, fundraised to document the 2010 *Artistic and Cultural Biennale*
- Documented the Biennial in photos and video for Malian online press

New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ

April 2010

Workshop Director / Facilitator

- Taught *Inside Out: Writing Workshop for Artists*, a creativity workshop that encourages professional growth and critical thinking
- Provided onsite professional presence to support undergraduate students including lecturing

Lalla and SeguiSo SARL, Mali

February 1997-December 2009

Consultant

Part-time

- Recruited by the Malian project director
- Consulted to develop a project to bring long-term livelihood to rural women by spinning cotton
- Sourced cotton carding tool in the US, Maintained long-term contact with the factory
- Provided initial US made cotton carding tool samples
- Consulted on the development of a business plan
- Photographed rural women's spinning cooperative
- Facilitated USAID funding to buy 600 cotton carding tools
- Facilitated the purchase including hosting project director and Malian trade mission to visit the factory and receive the finished cotton carding tools
- Consulted on distribution of the cotton carding tools to the local women, on USAID funding requirements

Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation Award, Mali

June - October 2009

Project Management, Documentation

- Recruited to develop, direct, facilitate a project about the role and importance of Family and Community
- Collaborated with Malian colleagues to create a project highlighting social justice and positive cultural change
- Interviewed and photographed a cross section of Malians

Institute of International Education/ Fulbright, Bamako, Mali

April - June 2009

Senior Specialist, Workshop Director

- Conceived, created, delivered *Inside Out: Writing Workshop for Artists*, a creativity workshop to encourage professional growth
- Participated in jurying of the first graduating class at Balla Fasseke Kouyate Conservatory of Arts & Multimedia.

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

October 2007 - February 2009

Consultant, Workshop Facilitator, Project Manager

Part-time

- Recruited to develop and facilitate a residency with a group of Malian artists
- Negotiated and facilitated contracts, air transport, visas, shipping and sales
- Lectured and facilitated workshops for elementary school and university undergraduate students
- Served as language and cultural translator during the project

Antioch College, Yellow Springs, OH

February 2000- February 2006

Originator / Director, Study Abroad Program, Mali

- Originated semester-long Study Abroad Program for American undergraduate students
- Created the structure and curriculum of the program
- Directed the program for 4 years
- Developed student recruitment and program materials
- Reviewed applications, interviewed and selected candidates
- Recruited local coordinators, lecturers, home stay families, workshop directors
- Developed and directed arrival in country orientation
- Arranged and supervised arts residencies selected by program participants
- Organized, directed and led a 3 week study tour during the semester
- Provided resources and support throughout the program, responded to students health needs
- Organized annual end of semester exhibition and performances to demonstrate student accomplishment
- Evaluated and graded student performance

Ford Foundation, Lagos

December 2005 - February 2006

Project Developer, Documentation, Translator

- Developed concept for *Three Continents Textile Collaboration* that brought together artists from Indonesia, Nigeria and Mali
- Served as language and cultural translator during the project
- Directed, filmed, produced, edited a video documenting this project; also photographed the project
- Wrote, designed, produced a catalog

MaliWatch, San, Mali

January 2004 - November 2005

Consultant, Project Manager

Part-time

- Initiated the *Maternal Death Reduction Project* in collaboration with Malian colleagues
- Consulted on funding proposal
- Mentored youth association
- Established a blood bank in the maternity ward of the regional hospital
- Purchased, installed a refrigerator for blood supply for women needing transfusions during, after childbirth
- Initiated a blood drive to educate local population, announce the blood bank, secure donors

Tucson Arts Brigade, Tucson, AZ

May 2004

Workshop Facilitator

- Originated and facilitated workshops to encourage civic engagement in neighborhood redevelopment
- Encouraged the design and placement of art for rejuvenating vacant lots, cleaning up neglected streets, transforming neglected parks
- Encouraged robust citizen participation in public affairs

Smithsonian Folklife Festival, Washington, DC

June - July 2003

Presenter

- Served as cultural and language translator between Malian artisans and the American public
- Sourced and procured supplies and working materials available in Washington for the Malian artisans

Henry Street Settlement, NYC

February 1999 - April 2000

Curator

Part-time

- Originated, developed the concept collaboratively with co-curator, *Unbound: Reshaping Artist's Books*
- Negotiated with the exhibition venue
- Published and disseminated an application for participation
- Curated appropriate art work of about 40 artists
- Facilitated and coordinated the installation, publicity, and outreach

Mali Dye Project, Bamako, Mali October 1998- December 1999
Director, Fundraiser Part-time

- Recruited to direct a small business fabric dyeing business development project
- Developed the project in consultation with business owner
- Originated, executed a creative funding approach by establishing outreach to international network
- Fulfilled donor perks: 2 yards of dyed cloth for \$50 donation

New York African Film Festival, Lincoln Center, NYC December 1997-May 1998
Curator Part-time

- Initiated and created concept for an exhibition introducing Malian artists to the American public
- Contacted the film festival and secured agreement
- Negotiated and facilitated air transport, lodging, visas, shipping and sales
- Organized and installed the exhibition, arranged for photo documentation

MaliWatch, United States and Mali December 1997- December 2012
Founding Member and Board of Directors

- Linked culture and science, connecting two continents, working with Malian scientists and artists.
- Introduced the first cultural platform within MSAS, a scientific forum in Mali that involves many partners - schools, Mali private entities, Malian government.
- Produced *Mali : An Invitation to Travel* video, MaliWatch's first project
- Consultant to *Maternal Death Reduction Project*, a grassroots effort

United Nations Special Committee Against Apartheid, South Africa April 1988- November 1994
Director/South African Women Artists in Resistance

- Initiated project in collaboration with South African artists for an exhibition in the US reflecting the life circumstances, hopes, dreams of over 200 South African women of all races
- Wrote fundraising proposal for the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid
- Consulted with liberation movements to get approval for funding in observance of the cultural boycott
- Traveled to South Africa to launch the project and work with groups in Johannesburg and Cape Town
- Published and disseminated an application for participation
- Facilitated the exhibition design for 400 unique postcard-sized works
- Oversaw the production of catalogue
- Installed the first exhibition in New York City
- Organized a tour throughout the US for several years: finding venues, scheduling, outreach, shipping, lecturing
- Developed a platform to talk about South Africa and women's experiences

Beth Israel Hospital / New Museum NYC August 1988- March 1990
Director, Workshop Facilitator Part-time

- Developed *Women Facing AIDS*, a community-based art workshop series for women with AIDS at a time when people were unaware that women could get AIDS
- Designed the workshop using materials that were safe for the women's special needs
- Searched and found the venue
- Recruited two local professional artists to collaborate on the facilitation of weekly sessions for 2 months
- Sourced and Procured appropriate materials and supplies
- Facilitated weekly sessions that became a drop-in support group for the women who attended even when they were too sick to participate
- Established relationships between and among the participants and the facilitators for caring and support.
- Commissioned a documentary video of the workshop
- Exhibited work at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, NY in 1989
- Toured works to several other venues in the US.

Published Writing

- *Kawral: Peace, Reconciliation, Social Cohesion*, Catalog Essay, USAID, December 2014
- *Mali's History and Culture: the Keys to a Durable Solution*; Journal of Cultural Anthropology, Online, March 13, 2013
- *A Revolution, Not a Coup d'Etat*, Council on Foreign Relations, Africa in Transition Blog October 22, 2012
- Women's Voices for Change blog, *Finding Home: West Africa*, 2 articles about my long connection to West Africa, 2012
- *Contemporary African Fashion* (book) Chapter 7, Indiana University Press, 2010
- *Poetics of Cloth*, Catalogue essay, Group Bogolan Kasobane, Grey Art Gallery, NYU, 2008
- African Arts magazine, Photo essay, *The Women of Kalabougou (Mali)*, Special Issue: Spring 2007
- *Three Countries Textile Collaboration*, Catalogue essay, Ford Foundation, 2005
- African Arts magazine, Book Review, *Art in South Africa: the Future Present* by Sue Williamson and Jamal Ashraf, and *Women and Art in South Africa*, by Marion Arnold, Summer, 2002
- Beadwork Magazine, Article, *The Language of Beads: Kandioura Coulibaly*, April 2002
- *Artists On The Home Front*, Catalogue essay, Goddard Riverside Community Center, New York, NY 1991
- *South African Mail: Messages From Inside*, Catalogue essay, Soho20 Gallery, NYC, 1990

Professional Affiliations

- Arts Council of the African Studies Association (ACASA)
- MaliWatch
- MANSA- Mande Studies Association
- African Studies Association
- College Art Association
- International Sculpture Center

Grants and Awards

- *Fulbright Senior Specialist Grant*, First Floor Gallery, Harare, Zimbabwe, 2012
- *Fulbright Senior Specialist Grant*, Balla Fasseke Kouyate Conservatory of Arts, Bamako, Mali, 2009
- *Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation*, Philadelphia, PA, 2009
- *Ford Foundation*, Three Continents Textile Collaboration, 2005
- *Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation*, Philadelphia, PA, 2003
- *Fulbright Senior Research Fellowship*, Mali, West Africa, 1994-5
- *United Nations Committee Against Apartheid*, Grant, South African Mail: Messages From Inside, 1989

Education

- M.A., New York University, in sculpture, September 1979- May 1981
- B.A., Antioch College, Yellow Springs, OH, in art, June 1970- May 1974
- Forum '85, UN Women's Conference, Nairobi, Kenya, July 1985
- Experiment in International Living, Semester Program to Ghana, February - May 1973
- Independent investigation of arts in West Africa May- December 1973
- Asgard School, Fibers, Hurup Thy, Denmark, 1971

References Available on request