**Ahmad Damen**

**Springfield, VA** (Permanent Resident) **Email: ahmaddamen@gmail.com Mobile: +1 5714571399 Linkedin:** [ahmad-damen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ahmad-damen/)

**Work Experience**

Middle East Broadcasting Network (Virginia, USA) Jan 2017 – Now

**Content Acquisition Specialist (Program Evaluator)**

Screened more than 4,500 hours and purchased 500+ hours of content from 500+ licensors.  
My work proved instrumental in the network's relaunch.  
I initiated and managed an online project to feature the network's acquisitions (webisodes).

Tasks include:

* Search and acquire documentaries from distributors and independent filmmakers. Participate in Reelscreen, IDFA, MipTV as a TV buyer.
* Make decisions on pitches. Content evaluation to fit different broadcast requirements.
* Create online content (webisodes).
* Schedule planning for the network's acquired content. Create generic and other scheduling grids.

Al Arz Production (Freelancer)

**Producer/Director – Programs & Documentaries**  May 2016 – Dec 2016

Supervised several ongoing series produced by Alarz Productions (content editing, training presenters, production values)

Flair Media Consultancy (Turkey) Feb 2016 - May 2016

**Programmes** **Producer**

* Producer of daily news show for TRT on Iraqi issues.
* In charge of three documentary series.
* Directed my third documentary.

Birzeit University – Media Centre (Palestine) Feb 2015 - Feb 2016

**TV Unit Supervisor**

* Projects manager of TV content & training courses.
* Provided training for professionals and students on TV production, script writing, filming and other specialities.
* Part of a three-person team responsible for procuring university-wide filming equipment (bid evaluation, vendor interviews, and final selection).
* Archival research to obtain historical photos, maps, documents, etc. of traditional cities.
* Radio show producer and presenter on World Music.

Independent Music Composer & Sound Designer 2008 - 2016

**Freelance – Part Time**

Composed & conducted original music soundtracks for nearly 20 award-winning documentaries, documentary series, independent fiction films, program jingles, and educational videos.

Al Arz Production (Palestine)

**Producer/Director – Programs & Documentaries**  August 2011 – Jan 2015

* Wrote, produced, directed, & edited two documentaries: 'The Red Stone' & 'Forbidden Pilgrimage.' The films were officially selected in several international film festivals (won one award), and translated to several languages. 'The Red Stone': English, Arabic, French, Turkish. 'Forbidden Pilgrimage': English, Arabic & Italian).
* Documentary series on music bands (5 episodes).
* Media management on establishing a new online Arabic TV channel.
* Content editor for 'Beyond the Green Line' TV magazine series.

Al Jazeera English (Qatar)

**Reversioning Freelance Producer at Al Jazeera World Program**  Sept 2013 – Nov 2013

Devised a system for evaluating documentaries, translating and adapting from Arabic to English. Projects included:

* Dangerous Waters (Italy), 48 min
* Inside Shin Bet (Palestine), 48 min

Vision for TV Production Company (Jordan)  
**Assistant Producer/Director - Documentaries** Jan 2010 – August 2011

Assisted in producing, directing, conducting research on six documentaries

ABS Network (Jordan) June 2009 – Dec 2009

**Marketing Project Manager**

* Created a new branding marketing strategy, including corporate dynamic website.
* Conducted negotiations with Reuters/Cairo on ABS covering the 2009 Afghani elections for Reuters
* Initiated an online-archive system: Selected, hired and supervised archive officers

**Education**

MSc Management (With Merit) Sept 2007 – Dec 2008

**University of Leeds, Leeds, UK**

Dissertation: Managing Change

Title: “The effect of forces of inertia on learning and innovation in the opera industry, UK: A Case Study”.

BA Marketing (High Distinction; Top of class - GPA 3.95) Oct 2003 - Feb 2007

**New York Institute of Technology, Amman, Jordan**

Music Studies: Music Composition & Oud studies 1999 – 2006

**National Music Institute (Ramallah); National Music Institute (Amman)**

ABRSM Certificate (Associated Board Royal Schools of Music/UK), Distinction, Dec 2007

Studies in Music Production and Technology September 2016 - December 2016

**ITU University Music School – Istanbul**

**Awards**

Public Speaking Contests (Three Awards – District 27) April 2018 - April 2019

**Toastmasters International**

Best Speech Evaluation in the city of Alexandria, VA

Best 2nd Speaker in Division A (cities of Arlington, Fort Meyer, Southern DC)

Best Speech in the city of Arlington, VA

First Honorable Mention - Exemplary News Teams in Developing Countries Oct 2014

**World Media Summit (Beijing) - Global Awards for Excellence**

Jury Special Selection - “The Red Stone” May 2012

**Toronto Palestine Film Festival**

**Main Skills**

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| --- | --- |
| * Video & Audio Editing and Filming * TV Producing * TV Directing * Creative Writing and Research: eg. scripts, segments, content editing. * Story Telling | * Sound Technology * Film Acquisitions and Commissioning for Networks * Organizing training and educational workshops. * Buying Negotiations (Procurement) |