

# Uchechi Arinze

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I am a demonstrated achiever with exceptional knowledge in running a successful business. I am skilled at learning new concepts quickly, working well under pressure, and communicating ideas clearly and effectively. I am seeking an opportunity in a creative environment where my knowledge and professional experience in business management, entrepreneurship and creative problem solving can be transferred across and utilized to the benefit of the organization.

## SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

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- Proficient with Microsoft Office, Canva, Slack, Notion.
- Experienced in Presenting, Pitching and Public speaking.
- Effective Communication Skills
- Efficient People Management Skills
- Experienced in Business development, Advisory and Structuring
- Optimistic and Creative
- Hardworking

## EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

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<b>Unleash Business Exchange program</b> - Conde nast College of Fashion	<b>2021</b>
<b>Certificate in Entrepreneurial Management - EDC</b> at Pan-Atlantic University	<b>2015 - 2016</b>
<b>M.ed (Architecture)</b> - University of Lagos	<b>2009 - 2011</b>
<b>B.ed-(Architecture)</b> - University of Lagos	<b>2004 - 2008</b>

## AWARDS

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Digital Africa Entrepreneur - <b>Africa France Summit</b>	<b>2020</b>
Global Digital Talent - <b>Russian Fashion Council</b>	<b>2020</b>
Fashion Fund Winner - <b>Unilever Nigeria</b>	<b>2019</b>
Building Entrepreneurs Today Award Winner - <b>Diamond Bank Plc</b>	<b>2016</b>
Fashion Focus Finalist - <b>Lagos Fashion and Design Week</b>	<b>2015</b>

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **Co-founder - Entrepreneurs Hangout Ng** **January 2016 – date**

Entrepreneurs' Hangout Ng is a monthly workshop for young entrepreneurs. We are focused on driving innovation and creating a relaxed environment for Nigerian entrepreneurs to learn, network, collaborate and be empowered.

- We have hosted 25 free entrepreneurship/empowerment workshops till date.
- Liaised with seasoned professionals and got them to facilitate 15 different workshops on topics ranging from 'Business Structure' to 'Pitching and Raising funds for your new business'.
- Some of our members have gone on to win 8 figure grants for their businesses.
- Several of our members have gone on to collaborate on successful projects.

### **Founder and Creative Director - CHeCHI** **September 2015 – date**

CHeCHI is a sustainable fashion company that creates multi-functional clothing for value driven women.

- Over 2000 dresses sold

- Showcased at Lagos fashion and design week
- Showcased at Mercedes Benz fashion week Russia
- Hosted 10 Pop-up events in collaboration with, Access Bank Nigeria, BoConcepts Nigeria, The Palms mall and Lagos fashion and design week.

#### **Junior Architect - G.N Archillines Projects**

**July 2012 - July 2013**

- Researched case studies and created design concepts for building projects.
- Drafted building plans designed by THE Principal Architect.
- Produced a contacts database for the company.
- Attended strategy meetings with clients.

#### **Head of Design Team – Mai Atafo Inspired Ltd**

**May 2011 – December 2012**

- Consulting and liaising with clients.
- Assisted in creating branding and marketing strategies.
- Assisted in event production.
- Worked on editorials and look-books for the company's collections.
- Maintained office policies and procedures for a more effective client and employee relations.
- Increased staff productivity and operational efficiency.

### **SHORT TERM EXPERIENCE**

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#### **Business Developer and Workshop Facilitator– Dream Big Ghana NGO**

**May 2018 - June 2018**

- Assisted with business development and strategy.
- Facilitated entrepreneurship trainings for their Community Learning Centre. Focused on business skills for small business owners.
- Worked on developing better business systems.
- Conducted a Mentoring session in Collaboration with Atorkor Vocational Training Initiative for 300 students.
- Created a new Social media strategy.
- Worked on their Female Hygiene initiative in collaboration with the Days For Girls NGO.

#### **Mentor – Teen Enterprise Week Pan- Atlantic University**

**July 2016 and July 2017**

- Educated the teenagers on the basics of entrepreneurship.
- Facilitated a clothing D.I.Y workshop.

#### **Founder– Ezniras Clothes Swap**

**September 2011 - July 2013**

The Eznira Clothes Swap was a unique, affordable and eco-friendly way to change your wardrobe without spending money and also donate to charity at the same time. We hosted 3 editions between 2011 and 2013.

- Over 150 women participated.
- We were featured on [www.bellanaija.com](http://www.bellanaija.com) and other online magazines.
- We donated clothing to the Pink Pearl Foundation and Ijebu Ode Grammar School.

### **INTERESTS**

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Entrepreneurship, Sustainability, Gender equality and Travel.

### **REFEREES**

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Available upon request.

