# **DENISE HOFF** Sarasota, Florida 34235 denise hoff@icloud.com (941) 323-0052

The Out-of-Door Academy, current Sarasota, FL

Musical Director; Chorus; Advanced Placement (AP) Theory

Venice Theater, current Venice, FL

Musical Director: Pinkerton Theater and Mainstage

Sarasota Music Conservatory (SMC), current Sarasota, FL

Piano Faculty

#### **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

#### McGraw-Hill Education, 2013–2015 - remote

**New York City** 

Senior Academic Designer, Product Development Group: K-12 Music

Combining expertise of digital music product design and K-12 music pedagogy, developed content for new *iMusic Studio* product released in 2016. http://www.mheducation.com/prek-12/explore/music-studio/spotlight-on-music

- Content development to stimulate independent and small group investigation of relevant musical topics, emphasizing a range of interactive resources utilizing a variety of creative responses.
- Authored and edited both teacher- and student-facing lessons to teach key concepts of theory and history.
- Designed storyboard and wireframe prototypes for music concepts including interactivity instructions and audio maps necessary to sync movement with animation.
- Managed delivery of multiple assets to development team and provided functionality testing on final platform.

## Pearson Education / Alfred Music, 2011–2013 - remote

Boston, MA

#### Interactive Digital Music Product Development Editor

Content developer for interactive music education product from proof-of-concept through deployment. http://www.pearsonschool.com/index.cfm?locator=PS2r4m&PMDbProgramId=149981&sampleId=18061

- With vendor team, developed Proof-of-Concept for Pearson's digitally-delivered interactive music product; provided quality control and testing for digital assets' functionality; edited content to ensure assets adherence to music pedagogy.
- Life-cycle management of product assets, from concept through design, production, ingestion, and QA of assets after deployment and delivery to customer.
- Managed author team and coordinated with creative team and external stakeholders to design, develop, and create assets.
- Supervised supply of sample design layouts and storyboard interactivity to programmers for implementation.
- Developed meta-data content, including keywords, topics and descriptions for ingestion of assets into Pearson's Online Learning Exchange [OLE], a digital platform delivery system.

#### Medialynx Design Group, Inc., 1997-2011

NYC • Sarasota • Chennai, India

Founder & Creative Director, an INC 500 "Fastest Growing Company 2008"

Led company to 650% revenue growth over 4-year period. Company provided comprehensive publishing services—design, illustration/art management, digital media, production/prepress—to niche educational publishing market. Grew from company of two in 1997 to more than 120 employees in the US and India.

- Opened business unit in India to meet clients' cost-reduction initiatives, providing savings of 65% to clients. Strategies for successful offshore expansion:
  - > moved to India to gain better understanding of cultural differences between U.S. and Indian business units—critical to product quality and clients' confidence levels.

- > retained status as preferred vendor (1 of 10) for major educational publisher during the course of offshore expansion and extreme downsizing of US vendor-pool; niche market was pushed offshore entirely in 2010.
- > Led multifunctional project teams, successfully merging functional diversity (ranging from creative to technical) and global diversity (Indian and American personnel) into a cooperative, cohesive and highly productive company team.
- > Cross-trained staff across teams and departments to facilitate and streamline workflow, which in turn increased profitability 35% for fixed-rate projects due to consolidation of skill sets.
- Fostered planning initiatives and strategies to address developing market-demands of US publishers.
  - > implemented xml workflow for custom publishing requirements by multiple state educational agencies, allowing use of single source content exported into multiple design requirements.
  - > wrote best-practices guidelines for offshore vendor partners—specific to each product line— in order to guarantee quality product standards for publishing clients, minimizing the need for U.S. quality control of deliverables.
- Leveraged offshore partners to maximize operational productivity and efficiency, reducing overhead costs up to 35%. Methods and strategies for implementing and maintaining partnerships included:
  - > travel to Mumbai, Delhi, and Chennai to assess and train vendors, streamline offshore production, and establish and maintain production consistency.
- Developed client list to include Houghton-Mifflin Harcourt, McGraw-Hill, Pearson Education, Oxford/Sadlier, Voyager Learning, Church Publishing Group, REA (Research and Education Association), Adventure House (Cambridge University Press), Bob Jones University, Universal Edition-Vienna, Hal Leonard.

## PROFESSIONAL MUSIC PERFORMANCE Highlights

- New York City Opera National Company (3 yrs)
- Broadway Theater (NYC): Phantom of the Opera, The Secret Garden, Beauty and the Beast, Scarlet Pimpernel
- American Symphony Orchestra (NYC)
- National Orchestral Association [NOA] (NYC: clar.)
   Carnegie Hall performances / Recordings on CRI
- International Tour 1-year S.E. Asia: Singapore/HK Phantom of the Opera
- Manhattan School of Music Faculty/Coach:
   East/West International Music Festival, (Germany)
- Jingles / Commercial Recordings (NYC)
  various, including Celine Dion, Smithsonian Sound
  Tracks, Broadway demos, TV commercials . . .

- Manhattan Chamber Orchestra (principal clar., 10 yrs)
   regular performances at Carnegie Hall; 30+
   recordings: KOCH International, Helicon, VOX,
   Newport Classic
  - Grammy-nominated chamber music album
  - London Billboard Chart: #1 in Contemporary Classical
  - TIME Magazine "Pick of 1995"
  - National Association of Independent Record Distributors [NAIRD] "Indie Award"
  - Lincoln Center Arts-Project Award: performance in Alice Tully Hall
- Contemporary Performance Art (NYC: CBGBs, Knitting Factory, Threadwaxing Space)

## **VOLUNTEER History**

#### Temple Beth Sholom Schools, Volunteer of the Year 2014

Celebration Gala, Marketing and Graphic Design, 2012, 2013, 2014

# **EDUCATION History**

## Columbia University, Post-graduate studies in Business & Composition

Winner: Columbia University Composition Award

# Manhattan School of Music, M.M., Performance University of WI-Madison, B.M., Performance

• 4-year full merit-scholarship