

Tirzah Basit Khan

Designing for justice & community.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Graphic designer @ Winning Mark 03/24 to now (contract)

Design social media graphics, web interfaces, and ad campaigns for political, union, environmental advocacy, and voter education campaigns

Graphic designer 09/15 to now (freelance)

Create illustrations, logos, business cards, style guides, and ads for clients including:

- Adriana Lacy Consulting, a digital content consulting firm
- Next City, a nonprofit media outlet focused on urbanism and social justice
- Empowerment Avenue, a nonprofit collective for incarcerated writers & artists
- Blue Marble, a youth-focused initiative of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs
- Solutions Journalism Network, a nonprofit fighting for better media practices
- AYESHA Magazine, a magazine publishing articles by U.S. Muslim women
- Creeping Sharia, a newsletter highlighting news about Muslims in America
- Muslim.co, a popular media platform focused on Muslim youth
- Raei, a social media initiative highlighting POC in fantasy and sci-fi media

Video producer @ Next City 09/23 to now (freelance)

Film and edit social media videos on urban issues

Graphic designer @ Democratic National Committee 06/21 to 11/22 (full time)

Designed ad campaigns, graphic emails, mobile/web interfaces, and merchandise for the Democratic Party and the White House to mobilize grassroots supporters. Designed graphics for @TheDemocrats, @JoeBiden and @KamalaHarris accounts (33M+ follower reach). Created logos and other assets for organizing initiatives. Pioneered new templates to be replicated by state party organizations. Served as interim design director on multiple occasions, leading a team of three designers

ART & DESIGN EXPERIENCE

Graphic designer @ Neighborhood Design Center 12/23 to now (volunteer)

Work closely with stakeholders to design pro bono signage for a neighborhood in Baltimore

Art director @ Analyst News 01/23 to now (volunteer)

Develop clean social media graphic templates and create a branding guide for vertical videos on social media, which increased follower count from less than 1,000 to over 24,000. Approve all graphics and story art before publishing

Islamic art advisory committee @ the Walters Art Museum 05/21 to 04/23 (contract)

Invited to serve on a committee that redesigned Islamic art exhibit to bridge the gap between the art's history and Baltimore Muslims' lived experiences. Pushed for a focus on Black Muslims, resulting in the addition of three didactic panels

Vice president of design @ UMBC Student Events Board 05/20 to 05/21 (part time)

Managed a team of three designers. Increased Instagram engagement by 58.5%

Design team lead @ hackUMBC 01/20 to 05/21 (volunteer)

Spearheaded outreach for UMBC's 2020 hackathon, increasing attendance by 40%. Designed a sponsorship packet that led to 12 sponsorships from leading tech companies. Created social media graphics and designed website interface

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Intern @ UMBC Center for Democracy and Civic Life 08/20 to 05/21 (internship)

Facilitated dialogues for student and staff groups. Organized a campus-wide voter registration campaign. Organized dinners for students to engage in local politics. Launched, hosted and produced a community-centered podcast

Co-founder & lead organizer @ TEDxUMBC 05/19 to 05/21 (volunteer)

Managed a team of seven organizers to plan a campus-wide event. Developed a marketing strategy and a brand guide

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EDUCATION

Harvard University Graduate

School of Design 08/24 to 05/26

Incoming Master of Urban Planning student

University of Maryland, Baltimore

County (UMBC) 08/17 to 05/21

B.S. in information systems, with a psychology minor and web development certificate

SKILLS

Design Illustration, animation, UI/web design, logo and branding design, typography, video editing, social video production

Software Figma, Adobe Creative Suite (particularly Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, XD & After Effects), Procreate

Programming HTML5, CSS, JS, Python, C++

Interpersonal Collaboration, project management, community engagement, restorative practices, dialogue facilitation

HONORS

STRIVE Leadership for Social

Impact panelist 01/20 & 01/21

Invited twice to speak to students at intensive program on leadership for public purpose

Community-building subgroup @

UMBC Division of Student Affairs

09/20 to 12/21

Developed communications strategy for university to allocate resources to social justice initiatives

Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting panelist

07/20

Spoke at a national conference for student affairs professionals about student activism

Solutions Journalism Network logo contest winner 02/20