

John Foley Hindman

4834 Minden Place, Los Angeles, California 90041

(323) 257-7858 hindman.avirov@sbcglobal.net

<http://hindmanwritereditor.writerfolio.com/>

I am a seasoned communications professional with commensurate strengths: extensive skills as a writer and editor; an ability to place articles and broadcast features to fit established communications objectives; a proven ability to sell ideas to the media; and managing people.

EXPERIENCE:

2006–PRESENT

FREELANCE WRITER AND EDITOR

RECENT CLIENTS: KUSC-FM Magazine, Einstein Papers Project at CalTech, Musica Angelica Baroque Orchestra, Scarlet Fire Films

2005–2006

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

Conceived and implemented public relations and marketing strategies for the museum, significantly heightening public awareness of exhibitions and activities regionally, nationally, and internationally. Developed and executed media plans, strategies, and vehicles for comprehensive and effective media/public relations policies and programs on a very limited budget. Provided strategic input into the museum's communications program to the museum director and senior management.

- Served as spokesperson for the museum and primary contact for regional, national, and international media outlets.
- Established and maintained effective, up-to-date professional contacts with local, national, and international art critics, editors, feature writers, freelance writers, and broadcast journalists.
- Crafted and shaped public statements, including those concerning crises, museum policy, exhibitions, and artists represented at the museum, as well as other issues identified by the museum director and senior management.
- Worked with representatives of other departments in overall planning, promotion, and implementation; wrote or edited all news releases, working closely with key members of other departments to ensure timely distribution and factual accuracy of information on exhibitions, acquisitions, education programs, social and fundraising events, and other special programs.
- Supervised staff of two, plus interns and volunteers. Hired and supervised outside media and special events consultants working on special projects.
- Prepared annual media relations and marketing budgets, providing strategic input for development of museum-wide budgets, including recommendations for media and public relations priorities, status of corresponding budgets, and upcoming needs.

1991–2005

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Art Institute of Chicago

With the vice president for Audience Development and Public Affairs, planned and directed media programs and worked with all segments of the print and electronic media

to implement national, regional, and local publicity-related strategies for the Art Institute and its programs. Also served as acting department head.

- Researched and wrote news releases, solicitation letters, and collateral promotional materials for major projects; edited all other news releases and advertising copy produced by the department. Researched, wrote, and oversaw the graphic design of the museum's semi-annual marketing brochure, special exhibition brochures, and media kits.
- Supervised staff of 2, plus interns and volunteers.
- Collaborated with multiple departments of both lending and borrowing institutions in publicizing traveling exhibitions, among them The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the National Gallery of Art, Washington, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam. Collaborated with other major cultural organizations in planning and executing special projects.
- Worked closely on a daily basis with Art Institute senior management and all curatorial and non-curatorial departments. Continually developed and maintained extensive familiarity with periods, styles, and movements of art and art history.

1991

GRANTS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE

Department of Cultural Affairs—City of Chicago

With City of Chicago deputy commissioner for Development, helped to coordinate fundraising activities and all areas of grantsmanship for the DCA. Developed proposals; prepared grant applications; investigated new sources of funding. Wrote and edited reports and articles.

1982–1991

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

Dienhart Public Relations, Chicago, Illinois

Responsible for day-to-day operations of boutique public relations firm. Wrote and edited news releases and other publicity material; planned and staged media events; maintained extensive telephone contact with clients, media, and colleagues.

1980–1982

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PROGRAMMING

Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois

With department director, planned, implemented, and evaluated all promotional programs for the museum, its exhibitions and events, and its projects at all stages. Produced events, including performance art, new music concerts, jazz and blues festivals, and poetry readings.

1980–Present

FREELANCE (Representative Past Clients)

- Writing/Editing: Illinois Arts Alliance Magazine, *Chicago Reader*
- Communications/Fundraising Consulting: New Opera Company, Chicago; Oriana Singers, Chicago; Clybourn Performance Salon, Chicago
- Jury member, Chicago International Film Festival, 1985–99
- Jury member, Festival of Illinois Film & Video Artists, 1988-1990
- Teaching Tai Chi Chuan to groups and individuals.

EDUCATION

B.A., Summa Cum Laude, Communications and Theatre
University of Illinois, Chicago

Studies in Anthropology, Literature, History, Music, and Art History