

AMIRA DHANOA

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Project portfolio prepared for this role: arup.chandnidhanoa.com

SUMMARY

Project and program manager with six years across civic, cultural and commercial development, three of them in the built environment. I have carried a \$4.3M public art portfolio through fabrication, international freight and installation inside an active construction site shared with more than 500 personnel, inherited a broken project budget and owned it after leading the audit, modeled investment scenarios from \$5M to \$50M so a client could choose what to build, and taken stores, exhibitions and fixed date builds from drawings to opening. I work on site, own scope, schedule, budget and contracts together, and report to clients directly. Currently pursuing PMP certification with the Project Management Institute.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Project and program management, on site delivery, installation oversight, scope and schedule control, budget ownership and cost reporting, contract negotiation and administration, procurement and vendor management, international freight and logistics, construction drawing review and coordination, permitting and inspections, options appraisal, business case development, scenario and cost modeling in Excel, risk and issue tracking, multidisciplinary team coordination, client relationship management, proposal and bid development, stakeholder engagement, project controls and reporting systems, standard operating procedures, quality and condition reporting.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DVDL | Project Lead (contract)

2025 to April 2026

Cultural infrastructure and public art consultancy, New York, with site work in San Marcos, California and Atlanta, Georgia. Joined as on site Project Coordinator, promoted to Project Manager of the North City programming plan, then to Project Lead.

- **North City public art portfolio.** Managed on site implementation of a \$4.3M public art portfolio inside an active construction site at North City, a 200 acre mixed use master planned district: five commissions from four artists and one design studio, more than 50 individually fabricated elements, sequenced around a construction calendar shared with more than 500 site personnel.
- **Budget ownership.** Inherited a broken project budget, led the audit and overhaul with two colleagues, then owned the budget from that point forward, including cost reporting, invoice oversight and vendor payment.
- **Contracts.** Negotiated and owned all additional contracted work, scope expansions and logistics contracting, taking each through client approval, and administered the contracts signed before my onboarding.
- **Procurement and logistics.** Single point of contact for every vendor across logistics, timelines and budget alignment, including documentation for international freight from South Africa, the United Kingdom, Mexico and the United States, and for domestic final mile delivery.
- **Technical coordination.** Worked from site plans, structural details and shop drawings to coordinate artists, engineering and construction management. Signed off and documented every delivery, supported artist install teams, and ran installation directly when those teams were not on site.
- **Project controls.** Wrote three standard operating procedures for the project management function covering project management, logistics, budgets and reporting, built to scale across phases and locations. Ran action and decision logs, approvals and progress tracking in Monday.com and budget oversight in Google Sheets across four or more concurrent phases.
- **Client relationship.** Client facing lead on site through shipping, receiving and every installation date, and online in between, while reporting to the New York team.
- **Programming strategy, \$5.5M.** Developed a three year cultural programming and activation strategy with my manager, leading the programming concepts and the implementation plan. Approved by the client in February 2026.
- **Midtown Atlanta, business case.** Directed concept development for a four acre civic park on a site purchased for \$46M, with landscape architects Field Operations and architects Tom Phifer and Partners. Concept and zoning plans approved by the client.
- **Options appraisal.** Modeled investment scenarios from \$5M to \$50M in Excel at line item specificity, varying acquired, loaned and commissioned works alongside programs and activations by cost and seasonality, so the client could see what each level of funding would buy. The plan holds at every funding level without redesign.
- **Bids and client material.** Led proposal development end to end and built the capabilities decks behind it, covering studio scope and each team member expertise across project management, cultural strategy and cultural infrastructure. Produced and finalized every client deck and budget, often on 24 hour turnarounds.

A+K Studios | Founder and Principal

2023 to present

Independent practice delivering cultural, exhibition, retail and spatial projects. Clients include Abacaxi, Women's History Museum, Retail Pharmacy and Green Girl Crafts.

- **Tumbao, Lower Manhattan.** Project managed the build of a 1,500 square foot concept store from finished plans to an operating space in ten weeks. Supported zoning and demolition permits, was present for inspections, worked from the construction drawings on site, and was primary client contact across trades, fabricators and vendors. One spatial identity carries retail, exhibition and events with no rebuild between them.
- **Women's History Museum at Amant Foundation, Brooklyn.** Fabrication strategy and exhibition advisory across sculptural installation and archival material. Advised on material systems, structural detailing and fabrication method, and held fabrication and install timelines against a fixed budget, gallery and opening. Covered in Vogue, Artnet and Wallpaper.

- **Fixed date builds.** Art directed a Cartier and Vogue campaign set built and struck inside a single Met Gala Monday. Sourced and installed the full Abacaxi FW25 runway environment for New York Fashion Week in under 20 hours with one assistant.
- **Reposoir, New York.** Spatial designer and curatorial consultant for a one evening exhibition of roughly 13 artists and 250 attendees, directed entirely remotely from California over video and sketches, including the position of the suspended canopy.
- **New York affordable grocery initiative, 2026.** Spatial design liaison on a team bid covering five stores, one in each borough, carrying a single brand identity across every location. Not awarded.

Ivana Bašić Studio | Studio Manager (contract)

Summer 2025

- Coordinated five main foundries and fabricators across New York, Rhode Island, Italy and China, spanning three time zones, ahead of the artist presentation at the Taipei Biennial.
- Tracked spend against the production budget and compared vendor quotes, supported fabrication across eight works, and managed freight to Taipei against a fixed opening date.

American Circular Textiles | Executive Operations Manager (contract)

2025

National coalition advancing textile circularity infrastructure and policy.

- Built membership operations from scratch as the sole member facing lead, writing standard operating procedures for acquisition, onboarding and dues.
- Ran the membership database and pipeline in HubSpot with status, payment and retention reporting. Onboarded Reformation, eBay, The RealReal and Tersus Solutions across tiers from \$5K to \$35K, reaching more than 30 paying member organizations inside a network of more than 500 stakeholders.
- Delivered biweekly market intelligence briefings to more than 25 industry leaders and tracked more than five state policy developments.

Intersectional Environmentalist | Director of Editorial and Engagement

2020 to 2023

National environmental justice organization.

- Ran all programming and was the client facing lead across corporate clients, academic institutions, branded content partners and partner nonprofits.
- **New service offerings.** Launched a newsletter and converted it to a paid membership within three months. With a two season podcast and a speaking program of roughly 30 engagements coordinated, negotiated and confirmed, these generated about \$20K a month in recurring revenue.
- **Corporate and academic delivery.** Designed and wrote the six week accountability training module delivered to clients including Clorox, Starbucks, Nike and Tazo, and delivered the Ecofeminism Toolkit in person to a Minnesota State graduate program. Stanford University adopted the organization Intersectional History of Environmentalism video.
- **Earth Sessions.** Founded the event series and produced its first three cities, Brooklyn, Los Angeles and San Francisco, handling vendor contracts and site layouts, produced with The Eyes and Ears Agency. The Los Angeles event sold out in 24 hours, drew 145 attendees and reached 359,000 accounts. The format has since run more than 20 events.
- Oversaw the budget, printer selection and editorial for a 102 page print issue that sold out its 5,000 copy run. Managed five copywriters and two researchers and grew the community from 200,000 to 600,000 in nine months.

Textile Exchange | Preferred Materials Analyst (contract)

2021 to 2022

- Developed the Preferred Fiber and Materials Matrix, an industry sourcing framework evaluating more than 65 materials across 80 impact indicators, and built the comparative methodology underneath it across climate, water, chemicals, soil health, human rights, waste and animal welfare.
- Led methodology updates introducing Human Rights and Initiative Integrity indicators, working with Ergon Associates, NewForesight and ZDHC.
- Presented the framework rollout at the Textile Exchange global conference to more than 4,000 industry leaders.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Integrated Digital Media

2020

New York University, Tandon School of Engineering. Honors Program, GPA 3.78. Minor in Social Entrepreneurship, NYU Stern School of Business. Completed two and a half years of civil engineering coursework within the Tandon engineering curriculum.

CREDENTIALS

- **Project Management Professional (PMP), Project Management Institute (PMI):** in progress, enrolled September 2026.
- **Engineer in Training (EIT) certification, State of California:** in progress, toward Professional Engineer (PE) licensure.

SYSTEMS AND TOOLS

- **Project controls and reporting:** Monday.com, Asana, Trello, Notion, Airtable, Miro, Microsoft Teams, SharePoint.
- **Financial and commercial:** Excel financial and scenario modeling, Google Sheets budget and invoice oversight, HubSpot.
- **Technical documentation:** reading and working from site plans, structural details and shop drawings; condition reporting; standard operating procedures.
- **Software:** Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, Adobe Creative Suite, Figma, Keynote.