



SHARON KLEIN

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Hands-on art director/designer who delivers powerful design solutions and user experiences. Talented developer of new business relationships and vendor/freelancer teams. Fluent in managing analytics and budgets along with the creative process. Experienced across a broad range of business categories: consumer goods, food, finance, technology and non-profits.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Brand Identity • Integrated Digital / Print Media • UX • Creative Direction • Project Management • Client Relations

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Art Director, Digital, Brand and Design Consultant | 2014 - Present

Passion for creating user experiences that deliver clear messages effectively across media, including online, collateral, packaging, point of purchase displays and other platforms. Track record in improving the profitability of companies.

Wharton Property Advisors

Strategy and design for digital and print sales materials to freshly market Manhattan commercial real estate firm.

Chocolat Moderne

Sales and marketing for unique factory/store in the Flatiron District. Products include handmade bon bon's and bars. Social media marketing. Direct sales as well as wholesale to businesses and chocolate stores. Spirits, wine and chocolate pairing events.

Jillian's Circus

Digital art director, designer and content creator for email marketing campaigns, social media and branding. Clients range from restaurants to real estate, security, consumer goods and services.

Ashanty Chocolate

Re-branded company and re-designed packaging for African inspired line of five dark and milk chocolate bars geared to the gift market utilizing the unique concept of printed fabric wrappers.

Alchemy Creamery

Improved sales for manufacturer of dairy-free, vegan ice creams by designing new signage that made it easy for customers to move through the ordering process. Infused their "fun" brand into promotional materials and online fundraising campaign with branded graphic elements and photography.

Organic Food Incubator

Revamped OFI's marketing materials to present them as a leader in launching and building new food brands. Corralled disparate messages into clear presentation of OFI's process online and in collateral. Added human dimension to marketing materials. Designed POP packaging for small-sized product to have big visual impact. Consulted on website content strategy.

Heirloom Cacao Preservation Fund

Worked with Board of Directors to re-design the image of this organization supporting chocolate industry professionals, makers, farmers and enthusiasts. Created inspirational logo, revised website, promotional materials and online newsletter.

Alliance Bernstein

Supported sales through creating and updating sales collateral (brochures, white papers, info-graphics, charts and graphs) for internal clients in Equities, Offshore, Retirement and Defined Contribution divisions.

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SHARON KLEIN

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sales and Marketing Representative | The Villa Home Collection/Classic Home Furniture | 2014-2015

Started pipeline from scratch in NY / NJ / CT / New England for this fashion-forward furnishings, hard /soft goods, rug and lighting manufacturer. Developed new prospects among interior designers, real estate developers, realtors, stagers and furniture stores. Extended Classic Home's client base into independents. Consulted with designers on color options.

Sales and Marketing Representative | Braxton Culler, Designmaster, Stylecraft and Lite-Source | 2014-2015

On the road sales in the tri-state area to retailers and interior designers for furniture, rugs, seating and lighting.

Creative Director | SKGD | 1998-2014

Expertise in conceiving and translating strategic plans into marketing and communications programs and developing strong brand-building campaigns. Fluent in integrating corporate identity into websites, sales/promotional materials. Managed both in-house/freelance staff and interns.

Assembled and led nimble teams to match the needs of clients, comprised of agencies, vendors, SEO experts, social media talent, programmers, copywriters, photographers and production assistants. Groomed talent in design, technical and marketing areas, promoting them into leadership roles by providing on-going training and capitalizing on their strengths.

Constructed and managed budgets for all projects, including complex multi-faceted website re-designs, in collaboration with developers, writers, photographers and illustrators. Tracked project financials for clients. Delivered on time and on budget. Analyzed data to create graphics and charts for financial clients and informational presentations.

Re-branded 65 year-old North Shore Animal League, visually making the organization relevant to a younger, current audience. Led re-design of website and social media, driving a 30% increase in traffic and 15% lift in online donations. Provided a divisional creative strategy that leveraged the core brand. Created brand guidelines and corporate identity for 6 divisions.

Re-oriented 20 year-old media company Novak Video brand away from video to legal services with the name Novak Trial Services, creating online presence and collateral credited with increasing revenue by 30%.

Led re-design of Acrow Corporation website for an international audience, involving project management of developers and translators for multi-language sites, including all sales collateral, continuing their global reach.

Designed AccuTutor's new corporate website to showcase their expanded services, plus marketing and sales collateral materials including: brochures, print ads, promotional materials, sell sheets, and SAT study guide for educational services provider.

Created brand strategy for The Parkinson's Disease Foundation that enhanced awareness of their mission via marketing programs, communications material, development efforts, events and special projects. Drove fund-raising increases of 20%.

Education: Parsons School of Design | Bachelor of Fine Arts, Communications
Carnegie-Mellon University | Communication Design studies

General Assembly | Certificate - Visual Design. Score | Certificate - Social Media Marketing Masterclass
Noble Desktop | Web Development 1, UX Fundamentals, HTML Email, Wordpress, PowerPoint

Knowledge Base: InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Social Media, Email Campaigns, PowerPoint, HTML5 & CSS3

Awards: Art Direction Magazine — Logo design | Graphic Design USA — Logo and package design

**References and full client list available upon request*