

Franque Michele Bains

Strategic Design | Facilitation | Advocacy

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Relationship-driven leader with 10+ years of experience leveraging community input and engagement to develop strategic recommendations and propel initiatives forward. Apply cooperative interpersonal skills to drive organizational outcomes that bring to life a team's vision and make a lasting impact on the community.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION
MASTER OF ARTS IN MATHEMATICS

Claremont Graduate University
Claremont Graduate University

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- Program Management
 - Project Management
 - Project Implementation
 - Participatory Facilitation Techniques
 - Restorative Practices-Based Facilitation
 - Board Management
 - Community Relations
 - Partnership Management
 - Cross-Functional Collaboration
 - MS Office Suite
 - Team Leadership
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WORK EXPERIENCE

PROGRAM MANAGER

PROG Development Center | 2022 - Current

Stepped into a dynamic role to foster a community of inclusion and belonging between partners and communities in West Valley City.

- Spearheaded organizational management, developed strong partnerships, and led strategic planning for a team of 3 staff to roll out a technology-driven center.
- Leveraged creative thinking to pioneer a community-first approach in utilizing youth and partner-led strategies, resulting in improving outcomes community-wide.
- Provide organizational management, partnership development, and strategic planning to our team to build out programs for a career support-focused center.
- Key Outcomes: Managed project development and implementation for landscape analysis at the implementation of a community center.
- Lasting Results: Launch of inaugural programs boasting 85% retention rates helping participants gain tech certifications and employment throughout Utah.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIST | 2016 – CURRENT

Hired as a contractor to oversee the design and facilitation of ongoing community engagement strategies, providing organizations with the tools necessary to align community voice and amplify the level of impact.

- Aligned community strategies with programs focusing on the tools of liberatory design and participatory narrative inquiries.
- Centering this work using the tools of liberatory design and participatory narrative inquiry for the People's Energy Movement, Tracy Aviary, and the Utah Film Center.
- Key outcomes: 90% engagement in community-driven education initiatives due to the implementation of a task force, board involvement, and approval of compensation for the community.
- Lasting Results: Hires of POC in leadership roles, POC-led programming, diversified volunteer pool due to community-led initiatives.

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WORK EXPERIENCE, CONT.

ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR

Westminster University, Salt Lake City | 2019 – Current

Joined Westminster faculty to teach curriculum focusing on Facilitating and Negotiating for Social Change and Writing to Heal Trauma.

- Teach lessons rooted in participatory and design processes that equip students with the skills needed to facilitate meaningful experiences and lift all voices in a room.
- Key Outcomes: End-of-course reports designed to support the student's professional experiences and expertise.
- Lasting Results: Strong student rapport resulting in strong relationships and opportunities to provide Trauma-informed instruction to the faculty as a whole.

NETWORK DIRECTOR

United Way of Salt Lake | 2019- 2020

Developed cross-sector teams and implemented strategies that improved educational outcomes for 3rd-grade reading and comprehension, 8th-grade mathematics, and chronic absence for school districts in Northern Utah.

- Served as a convener to lead teams through the exploration, ideation, and implementation of initiatives to improve school outcomes for students using a collective impact framework through building teams of concerned individuals including business leaders, parents, and educators.
- Key Outcomes: Math and reading initiatives engaging in 1 middle school and 3 elementary schools supporting youth skill attainment through online learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Lasting Results: Pathways for engaging in conflict and challenging conversations within my 3 networks of community leaders and educators.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE & MATH EDUCATOR

Oakland Military Institute | San Francisco Unified 2013 – 2016

Served as an educator and built restorative practice based programs that focused on improving student outcomes in collaboration with administrators and school counselors to craft alternatives to suspension. Designed project-based learning curriculum specializing in student-focused learning, metacognition, and discovery learning.

- Managed and led organized programs while navigating the school climate, socio-emotional wellness, and student leadership.
- Specialized in fostering a collaborative learning environment for students of all levels of learning.
- Key Outcomes: Developed programming for an out-of-school time initiative based on District standards for restorative justice allowing students to maintain class attendance.
- Lasting Results: Reduction in suspension rates across middle and high schools through action plan development with youth and developing a pathway to support at their site school.

PROJECTS

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER

Of Salt and Sand | 2022 - Current

Selected to serve on the board in strategic planning and developing storytelling projects aimed at supporting rural communities to navigate economic shifts.

FOUNDING MEMBER AND STRATEGY DESIGNER

Utahn Conversations | 2020 - 2021

Co-founded a communal project that provided support and tools for individuals to step into the role of "host" and conduct critical conversations that created change and built safety in the light of the George Floyd tragedy.

PUBLICATIONS

1. "People's Energy Movement", 16 Stories of Activism, Agency, Change, and Transformation, 2021.
2. "The Day of the Great Apology", New World Coming, Torrey House Press, Nov 2021.
3. "A Strong and Bitter Tea", The Salt Lake Tribune, 2020.
4. "The Tree" and "Ode to Black", Imagination Carver Literary Arts Society, 2nd Anthology, 2018.