

Kieryn Darkwater



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Summary

I've been making digital communication easy since 2006 with an audience-first perspective that informs the ultimate design and function of my work. I am a collaborator and teacher at heart, as such I am incredibly patient and easy to work with. I practice servant leadership and enjoy problem solving through teamwork and learning from others around me.

Everything I do, from building & managing a digital presence to organized political advocacy to creating online communities to providing mutual aid, is built on the foundational principle of "this (project) should be able to outlast me." This means that I am a good listener, ensure that whatever I do can be explained in a way that is easy to understand, teach what I know, learn what I don't, and never put ego over honesty.

I'm quick, extremely communicable, and build digital communications systems, strategies, and infrastructure that are created to last, evolve, and seamlessly transition to new hands whenever that time comes.

Experience



Online Communications Specialist

Darkwater Projects

Sep 2009 - Present (11 years 3 months +)

The Hustle has been my main gig for quite some time, instead of making a job for every client, I've created a summary and am happy to get into specifics on request. I've built and/or managed the websites, communications, IT support, social media, and graphic design for artists, nonprofit organizations, and candidates; including but not limited to:

- No on Measure Y (San Mateo) (2020)
- Berkeley City Councilmember-Elect Terry Taplin (2020)
- AC Transit Director-Elect Jean Walsh (2020)
- AC Transit at-Large candidate Victoria Fierce (2020)
- Alice Street Mutual Aid (2020)
- Berkeley City Councilmember Rashi Kesarwani (2018)
- Kitchen Table Cult Podcast (2018)
- Press Herald Toy Fund (2012)

Other Online Communication Accomplishments (including but not limited to):

- Wrote an article that went viral about the Religious Right's love for Mike Pence (2017)
- Generated 100+ subscriptions to a youtube channel in 2 weeks with social media (2017)
- Ran Successful Kickstarter to produce a web series with social media (2013)
- Created and published webcomics for a small internet community (2012)
- Created website about personal experiences and evolution from escaping the religious right (2009)



Co-Host

Kitchen Table Cult Podcast

Jul 2018 - Present (2 years 5 months +)

Created a weekly podcast about the organized religious right.

- Built and maintained podcast website
- Coordinated weekly remote recording sessions
- Managed digital communications and social media (twitter, email, instagram)
- Organized hybrid online/in person events & recording sessions
- Created a digital space for online supporters and community members

Founding Board Member (Steward)

East Bay For Everyone

Sep 2016 - Present (4 years 3 months +)

Part of the Education, Code of Conduct, and Community Events Working Groups.

- Built online streaming infrastructure
- Created and distributed digital and physical educational materials internally and externally
- Planned and participating in educational and community resource events
- Organized volunteers and enforced deadlines
- Facilitated conflict resolution processes to keep the organization both accountable and a nice environment to work in



Director Of Outreach

Coalition for Responsible Home Education

Jun 2019 - Jun 2020 (1 year 1 month)

- Created an online environment to engage, organize, and retain remote volunteers
- Managed and growing a team of 5 core members
- Created projects and tasks tailored to volunteer interests
- Conducted regular check-ins and updates
- Provided one-on-one support as needed



Student Senator

Laney College

May 2019 - Sep 2019 (5 months)

Associated Students of Laney College 2019-2020.

- Organized Climate Strike Rally on campus
- Advocated for All Gender Bathrooms to be accessible across campus
- Managed the ASLC, ICC, and club webpages
- Updated the ASLC page with information and notes according to the Brown Act



Tech Director & Founding Board Member

Coalition for Responsible Home Education

May 2013 - Jun 2019 (6 years 2 months)

Co-Founded CRHE in 2013.

- Oversaw the development and implementation of CRHE's online presence
- Maintained communications system and provided IT support
- Set up the online infrastructure for receiving donations
- Helped write the social media & communications style guides
- Designed social media materials for the annual fundraisers

- Supported social media team
- Helped write and format monthly newsletters

Student Organizer

Laney College Social Justice Center

Oct 2018 - May 2019 (8 months)

- Maintained and updated the program and student club's websites
- Designed event flyers and campus-wide email announcements
- Organized events for the undocumented community on and off campus to provide citizenship and DACA resources and other mutual aid.

Conference Organizer

YIMBYtown

Jan 2017 - Jul 2017 (7 months)

Organized a three-day international gathering of housing activists in Oakland, CA.

- Managed the press releases, social media, and oversaw communications while keeping track of conference logistics.
- Managed team of ~15 volunteer staff
- Welcomed 200+ attendees from all over the world
- YIMBYtown was featured in The Atlantic, The New York Times, Beyond Chron, and local tv news stations

Managing Web Editor & Site Administrator

Swan Children Magazine

Feb 2014 - Feb 2015 (1 year 1 month)

- Created and maintained the online infrastructure and email system
- Organized the regular publishing of the magazine
- Solicited & curated submissions from artists
- Helped organize and create monthly themes
- Communicated and enforced deadlines
- Managed a small team of editors.
- Organized a daily draw event with the community

Lead Applications Processor & IT Administrator

The Portland Press Herald

Oct 2011 - Oct 2013 (2 years 1 month)

- Provided administrative assistance in addition to processing applications and training volunteers.
- Created online infrastructure: website, emails, social media, contact forms.
- Taught the ED and staff how to use WordPress and social media which helped increase awareness of the program.
- Enabled online application access to clients
- Trained volunteer staff to enter application data to MS Access
- Accurately entered data from 100 applications in an hour

Production Assistant

Lobster Short

Mar 2010 - Dec 2010 (10 months)

Organized people, food, and locations before and during filming.

Setup small website for information about the film and release events.



Grassroots Organizer

n/a

Dec 2005 - Jun 2008 (2 years 7 months)

Spent the years between 2005 to 2008 working on local campaigns in various roles from Volunteer to Office Staff to County Volunteer Coordinator. Built websites, wrote successful phonebanking scripts, onboarded new volunteers, sent mailers, distributed lawn signs, and organized GOTV teams.

In 2006, Organized a rally that brought 75 people to the steps of the Georgia General Assembly building, which involved pulling permits, scheduling speakers, facilitating musicians, and marketing the event through newspapers, community groups, and radio spots.

Education



Laney College

Personal Enrichment, Industrial Maintenance; Community and Labor Studies

2017 - 2019

Learned new skills through the CTE program that gave me an understanding of how the infrastructure that society is built on gets, well, built. The Industrial maintenance program taught me how to read blue prints, machine replacement parts, maintain machines, weld, and understand the foundations of electricity. Through the Community and Labor studies program I learned how unions become unions, contracts are negotiated, members represented, and how to understand and arbitrate a grievance.

These experiences have forever transformed my understanding, empathy, and perspective as these skills apply to working in public service, infrastructure, and serving communities.



Homeschool

High School Diploma

2004 - 2007

Homeschooled K-12 in Florida and Georgia. Graduated top (and only) of my class.

Licenses & Certifications



OSHA 30 Construction Safety and Health - OSHA Training Institute Education

Center at Chabot-Las Positas Community College District

32-602008357

Skills

Media Production • Social Media • WordPress • Microsoft Office • Google Suite • Web Design • Accessibility • Adobe Creative Suite • Collaborative Problem Solving • Servant Leadership