

Rebekah “Athena” Stevens

www.athenastevens.com

Strengths

- Developing budgets
- Speaking in public
- Creative and expository writing
- Delegating tasks
- Extremely adept at understanding organizational structures
- Supervising Employees
- Managing multiple projects simultaneously
- A passion for human rights issues
- Working with local as well as international officials
- Implementing new initiatives
- Working with people from a variety of fields to create a viable solution
- Collaborating with individuals as well as institutions
- Multilingual
- Highly skilled in debate and mediation

Current Employment

December 2009 – Present

Novi Sad, Serbia

ArtFest 2011 Artistic Director / Campaign Manager

- Coordinates efforts between artists with disabilities across Eastern Europe
- Analyzing key cultural and social difficulties faced with individuals with special needs in Serbia, Hungary, Croatia, and other countries formerly behind the Iron Curtain as well as proposing solutions on a local as well as international scale.
- Soliciting responses and action from local business, industry, and media in order to raise awareness about disability exclusion from the public.
- Giving input and strategic recommendations to key government officials regarding access, disability hate crime, employment and independent living issues.
- Surveys the role of artists with disabilities and their potential impact on creating a society which allows persons with a disability to achieve their greatest potential.

October 2006 – Present

London, UK

Lead Advisor for Disabilities to the London Underground (Part Time)

- Created and preformed a full evaluation of the system. This consultation involved gathering the reactions of individuals with a wide range of disabilities from all over London.
- Authored a 45 page consultation document which analyzed the above
- Advises London Underground on their upcoming plans for the 2012 Olympics
- Counsels long term accessibility planning especially for the post 2013 improvements
- Works with other transport modules such as National Rail and TFL’s bussing service to create a fully accessible London

- Examines, analyzes, and directs possible changes to the system including but not limited to: budgeting, ticketing policy, toilet access, safety and evacuation, overhead announcements, seating, access designs, map layout, and station priority

2005-2006

The Sunflower Foundation Budapest, Hungary

Producer, Director, *A Thirst: An Original Production*

- Created, managed, and oversaw all programming related this original production to raise money for The Sunflower Foundation in Budapest, Hungary. The organization was created to provide children with disabilities an academic education which they would not otherwise receive in their own culture.
- Managed the use and rental of the 680+ seat Duke Family Performance Hall
- Synthesized the efforts between the Technical Services staff and the student organization Campus Revolutionaries Implementing Progress
- Supervised over 30 volunteers
- Joined forces with public relations including local businesses, newspapers, mailings, and other forms of mass media
- Recruited artists, writers, actors, accountants, graphic designers, computer programmers, backstage workers, lawyers, and stylists to donate their efforts pro bono.
- Collaborated with members and observers of the disabled community locally and internationally including from England, Hungary, China, South America, Africa and Iraq
- Engaged community partners including local businesses
- Laid groundwork for additional productions and programs to benefit The Sunflower Foundation in the future
- Total amount gained from this production covered all of the foundation's projected budget for the next two years

Fundraising and Grant Writing

2005

- Received two local community service grants to aid in production costs for *A Thirst*
- Enlisted services in kind from a professional accountant to manage the cost of the original production *A Thirst*
- Founded the first ever budget for the activist group Campus Revolutionaries Implementing Progress

2004

- Received a grant from the Abernathy Committee totaling \$3,000.00, the highest award possible, to complete an independent research project on the presentation of disability across Europe.
- Received a second grant for the same research project totaling \$3,500.00 from the Dean Rusk Study Abroad Committee, their highest research grant to date

- Wrote a two more grants for the same study abroad project but both committees declined to fund due to success with previous two grants.
- Successfully managed a budget of \$10,000.00 for 3 people while traveling through 9 different European countries.

1996-2000

- Routinely solicited donations on behalf of a non-profit charitable organization, Great Lakes Athletic Sports Association (GLASA)
- Appeared before the Chicago Board of Directors for the purpose of securing a Community Development Block Grant for Great Lakes Athletic Sports Association

Volunteer Teaching

Spring 2005 – Spring 2006

- Co-director and teacher of TOPS Dance, an adaptive dance program which integrates college students with high school students with mental and physical disabilities
- Mentored fellow students with disabilities in North Carolina
- Mentored high school students with disabilities in North Suburban Chicago
- Mentored and oversaw a performance / writing workshop at Live Bait Theater

Summer 2003

- Mentored high school students while performing at Victory Gardens Theater

2002 - 2003

Davidson Elementary School, Davidson, NC

- Acted as a bilingual teaching assistant in a second grade class at a local elementary school
- Taught English grammar and reading skills to fourth graders
- Managed paperwork, graded tests, and completed other administrative tasks for teachers

Other Activities

- Competitive and recreational athletics including: track, field, basketball, tennis, swimming, snow skiing, waterskiing, horseback riding, slalom, softball, soccer, and quad rugby
- Fluent in English and Spanish, working knowledge of French, Italian, and Arabic
- Volunteer for Carolina RAIN, an interfaith organization devoted to serving individuals with AIDS
- Numerous national and international awards in athletics including United States Cerebral Palsy Athletic Association Female Athlete of the Year 1998