

ANNE LAKER

Grants consultant
all-purpose writer

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PROFILE

I'm a writer and consultant who helps visionaries articulate their visions, attract support, and inspire audiences by telling stories of substance. I bring deep experience in non-profit practice – including grant writing, communications; partnership building, and organizational planning.

SKILLS

Active listening | Writing of all kinds | Media relations | Mission-based storytelling | Budgeting & budget monitoring | Organizing information

PROFESSIONAL ROLES

Laker Verbal LLC

Founder & Principal, 2019 - present

Indiana Forest Alliance

Director of Communications & Administration, 2016 - 2019

Big Car Collaborative

Director of Cultural Programs, 2012 - 2015

Indianapolis Museum of Art/Newfields

Director of Public Programs, 2010 - 2012

Manager of Public Programs, 2003 - 2010

The Polis Center at IUPUI

Spirit & Place Festival Coordinator, 2000 - 2003

Indiana Humanities Council

Program Officer, 1992 - 2000

EDUCATION

IUPUI, Indianapolis | M.A. in English

Mundelein College of Loyola University, Chicago

B.A. in Humanities | Summa Cum Laude

Minors in Communications and Women's Studies

EXPERIENCE & IMPACT

GRANT WRITING

+ As [Laker Verbal](#): (in calendar year 2023): Secured 20 grants totaling \$1.4 million for 8 different clients, including 6 grants of \$100,000 or more.

+ At [Laker Verbal](#): Secured \$1.4 million for one organization over two years in support of a capital project, programming, and staffing.

+ At [Hoosier Environmental Council](#) (as a volunteer): developed an environmental education program that garnered a \$60,000 grant.

MARKETING & STORYTELLING

+ As [Laker Verbal](#): Interviewed and wrote profiles of 8 scientists for IU Press book publication. Copyedited 80 profiles of Indiana entrepreneurs for magazine publication. Handled press announcement for Hoosier Environmental Council, garnering 20 story placements.

+ At [Indiana Forest Alliance](#): Developed and deployed written and visual messaging to inspire action for forest protection. In first year, increased total social media followers from 3,800 to 7,850; managed contentious Facebook page dialogue. Secured 250 mentions in newspaper & TV in a two-year period. Marketed rally that drew 800 people to the state capitol. Collaborated with designers to manage and refresh the IFA brand. Wrote fundraising appeals. Led communications efforts for “Save Yellowwood” and Crown Hill Woods campaign, resulting in thousands of contacts to elected officials.

+ At [Spirit & Place](#): Increased and diversified festival audience; 92% of participants reported they would attend Spirit & Place again in the future.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

+ As [Laker Verbal](#): Organized a season of events at Lugar Plaza, coordinating 93 performances and activities reaching 7,000 people; ran Instagram account reaching 32,000 people; trained security guards; collaborated with Big Car to manage physical space.

+ At [Big Car](#): Co-produced and curated four *TEDxIndianapolis* conferences, attracting a total of 3,500 attendees; facilitated content, marketing, and logistics sub-committees.

+ At [Spirit & Place](#): Planned and directed city-wide festival attracting 20,000+ participants; oversaw promotion, logistics, volunteers; in two years, doubled the number of partners & tripled number of events; implemented strategic planning process and four-tier evaluation process.

PROGRAMMING

+ At [Indianapolis Museum of Art](#): Directed, planned, and implemented approx. 100 public programs per year, including film series, talks, performing arts, and public fora; initiated and implemented programming vision for IMA's Tobias Theater, attracting 30,000 attendees in its first two years. Led planning for public opening of 100 Acres Art & Nature Park in 2010; opening attracted 8,000 visitors.

- + At [Spirit & Place](#): Led 25 workshops and creative meetings for partners—from program idea conception to audience engagement techniques.
- + At [Big Car](#): Booked diverse slate of presenters for SPARK Monument Circle and created promo calendar including daily Instagram posts and blogs.

GRANT MAKING

- + At [Indiana Humanities](#): Administered public humanities grant programs for public libraries, museums, schools, etc.; wrote and designed grant forms; counseled applicants; hosted review panels; marketed grant opportunities.
- + At [Spirit & Place](#): Led 25 workshops and creative meetings for partners—from program idea conception to audience engagement techniques.
- + Served on review panels for Indiana Arts Commission (2018 & 2016) and for the Accelerator Initiative (2022)

PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- + At [IMA](#): Cultivated, negotiated and sustained collaborations with two dozen diverse community organizations; initiated interdepartmental process to vet partnership requests.
- + At [Spirit & Place](#): engaged 100 cultural, civic & faith organizations in fest.

ADMINISTRATION

- + At [Indiana Forest Alliance](#): Updated and co-led budgeting process for \$500,000 annual budget; handled all bookkeeping.
- + At [Big Car](#): Facilitated conception of 2014-19 Big Car Strategic Plan & worked with consultant to create and implement program model.
- + At [IMA](#): Oversaw \$100,000 programming budget; developed revenue strategies.
- + At [Spirit & Place](#): Managed \$250,000 annual festival budget.

PERSONAL CREATIVE

- + Creative Renewal Fellow, 2016: received \$10,000 grant to scan & share 10,000 tiny diary entries I've written daily since 1985; co-created exhibition, website & Instagram feed.
- + Poetry published in *The Indianapolis Review* and *The Indianapolis Anthology* (Belt Press, 2021)
- + Host of *Flick Fix*, 2018 - present: movie review/interview show on WQRT 99.1.

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENTS

- + Arte Mexicano en Indiana: board member: 2022 - present
- + Citizens Climate Lobby: Treasurer, 2020 - 2023
- + Kennedy King Memorial Initiative: Board Treasurer, 2016 - 2019
- + Big Car Media: Board President: (2010 - 12); board member (2004 - 12)
- + Rotary Group Exchange: travel to South Korea as a cultural ambassador, 2010
- + Hoosier Environmental Council: Board Chair ('09); board member (2003 - 09)
- + Indiana Film Society: board member, 1998 - 2002