

Michelle Arkush

- Creative Experiential Producer
- Production Manager
- Event Specialist

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Address: Seattle, WA, USA

SUMMARY

Creative and technically proficient Producer with over 12 years of expertise in planning, executing, and elevating large-scale events across industries. Adept at immersive technologies, 3D rendering, and ideation to create captivating audience experiences. Proven ability to lead cross-functional teams, manage budgets, and deliver high-impact productions worldwide. Passionate about creating transformative experiences, fostering stakeholder relationships, and driving community impact. Adept at managing technical teams, vendors, and cross-departmental collaborations to produce innovative solutions that maximize efficiency.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Event Producer

Amazon | Seattle, WA | 07/2022 - Present

- Produced over 100 high profile events within 2.5 years, including large-scale programs with 1,500+ in-person attendees and thousands of global participants.
- Developed a 3D venue walkthrough platform for venue visualization, driving operational efficiency, cost savings, streamlining event planning process and enhancing client engagement.
- Collaborated with community organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters, JazzEd, Path With Art, and FIRST Robotics to deliver meaningful events.
- Supported nonprofit events, raising over \$1.5 million and exceeding engagement goals.
- Partnered with Seattle and Bellevue mayors, C-level executives, and technical teams on impactful initiatives for their events.
- Developed an Event Planning Guide and piloted AI tools to enhance event processes.
- Acted as AMER ambassador for the Global Team Newsletter, contributing to quarterly communications, data collection and reviews.
- Trained new team members through SOPs, hands-on experience, and structured onboarding programs.
- Oversaw vendor management, partners, and client relations for each event. Including show calling, script edits, install, and post-mortems.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Ability to lead teams for Arena sized shows, including vendor management, installation, and operation.
- Produced over 100 high-profile events for Amazon.
- Raised \$1.5 million+ through non-profit events.
- Developed a 3D venue walkthrough platform, as well as 3D mock-ups for proposals.
- Received credits on an award-winning documentary film for post-production.
- Managed large-scale productions for Light Action, supporting artist tours, e-sports in a \$1.1 billion industry, and outdoor festivals with 300,000+ attendees.
- Executed events across 32 countries with Royal Caribbean, collaborating with diverse multicultural teams.
- Led immersive community art installations, merging creative expression with public engagement.
- Spearheaded Global Newsletter for the Americas region, driving global communication and leader alignment at Amazon.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Audio Production (mixing, sound design, live audio engineering)
- Lighting Design & Programming (concerts, theaters, live events)
- Rigging & Stage Management
- Video & Broadcast Production
- 3D Rendering (Vivien, AutoCAD)
- Projection Mapping & XR/VR/AR Integration
- CAD & Floor plan Design
- Technical Equipment Maintenance

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Professional Experience Continued..

Production Manager

EXP- Multi-Media Events | Seattle, WA | 06/2021 - 05/2022

- Managed the design and execution of large-budget events, utilizing tools like Vivien, Trello, CAD, and Canva to create detailed concepts and layouts.
- Collaborated with graphic designers, marketing teams, and creative directors to align event strategies with client goals.
- Led cross-functional teams in planning operations, rehearsals, and day-of coordination for high-impact events.
- Designed immersive events and interactive experiences to engage diverse audiences.
- Worked with artist contracts, negotiations, and booking.

Technical Lead and Lighting Technician

Light Action Productions | Newark, DE | 06/2018 - 03/2020

- Managed onsite teams of 25+ crew members, ensuring seamless event execution.
- Analyzed and executed technical plans for lighting and production setups for events with up to 35,000+ attendees.
- Spearheaded cross-functional collaboration to improve production efficiency and reduce project delivery times.

Lighting & Installation Technician

Royal Caribbean International | 2016 - 2018

- Designed and managed lighting for multiple productions onboard different cruise ships, enhancing the quality of live performances.
- Installed and maintained advanced lighting, audio, rigging, automation, and projection systems to support diverse entertainment offerings across ship venues.
- Collaborated with a multicultural team across and travelled to 32 countries, ensuring seamless event execution and adapting to dynamic environments.
- Provided creative and technical solutions for unique challenges presented by open sea conditions and venue constraints.
- Was granted one of the few contract positions to help assist with charter preparation, and dry-dock installations.
- Supported cutting-edge entertainment technologies including automated scenic pieces, performer flying rigs, and Broadway-caliber productions.

(lighting rigs, audio systems)

- Installation & Maintenance (large-scale event setups, scenic automation)
- Project Management Software: Trello, Asana, Smart Sheets, Tableau, Work Front, Google Suite, Microsoft Suite.

CREATIVE SKILLS

- Event Design & Thematic Storytelling
- Concept Development for Immersive Experiences
- Cinematic Video Production & Content Creation
- Set Design & Interactive Installations
- Art Installation Proposals & Ideation
- Creative Problem-Solving & Innovation
- Visual Storyboarding for Client Pitches
- Brand & Audience Engagement Strategies

SOFT SKILLS

- Leadership & Team Management
- Strategic Planning & Decision-Making
- Effective Communication (cross-cultural, technical teams)
- Adaptability & Problem-Solving Under Pressure
- Conflict Resolution & Negotiation
- Creative Thinking & Innovation
- Mentorship & Coaching
- Collaborative Mindset
- Cultural Competence (working with diverse, international teams)

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Theater Technician

Kirkland Performance Center | Kirkland, WA | 01/2015 - 10/2018

- Led lighting, audio, rigging, staging, set design, and logistics.
- Supported community rentals, touring artists/ groups, local theater acts and temporary installations.
- Managed staging coordination and crew operations for performances, ensuring optimal show flow and safety.
- Programmed and maintained lighting and audio equipment for various productions.
- Supported directors' creative vision through innovative staging solutions within budget constraints.

EDUCATION

Associate of Arts: Business Management

Eastern Gateway Community College | Virtual | 12/2023
GPA: 3.85 | Member of Honors Society - Phi Theta Kappa

Certification in Audio Engineering and Production

University of Washington | Seattle, WA | 2016

Live Design Institute

Credit Hours in Vector Works, Project Management, XR, AR, and VR

Certifications: OSHA Safety Certification, MEWP (Scissor Lift and Boom Operation), Motor Hoist Repair, Theater Rigging, Lighting Board Operations

AFFILIATIONS

- The Interactive & Immersive HQ
- Member, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE)
- Volunteer Mentor, Big Brothers Big Sisters Program
- Member, Avixa: Audiovisual and Integrated Experience Association
- Ambassador, Women at Amazon & Mental Health Advocacy

HARD SKILLS

- Project Management (budgeting, scheduling, resource allocation)
- Contract Negotiation & Vendor Management
- Data-Driven Event Strategy & Reporting
- Cross-Functional Team Leadership (managing 25+ crew members)
- Global Event Coordination (32+ countries)
- Marketing Campaign Strategy (targeted promotional efforts)
- SOP Development & Training
- Client Relationship Management
- Technical Documentation & Proposal Writing