

# JULIAN JACKSON

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portfolio: [www.ninjackson.com](http://www.ninjackson.com) | linkedin: [www.linkedin.com/in/julianjackson1/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/julianjackson1/)

## SUMMARY

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Exhibition, experience and program leadership and implementation. Experienced in design, storytelling, theater, technology enhanced experiences, and building and mentoring teams. Committed to audience accessibility, diversity and fiscally sound mission fulfillment.

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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### **Owner** - Ninjackson Experience Design **2024 - Present**

- Strategy, design, development and implementation of innovative exhibitions and experiences.

### **Executive Director** - Historic Pullman Foundation **2020 - 2024**

- Led planning for the grand opening of Pullman National Historical Park.
- Oversaw new gallery upgrades & exhibition program, and expanded events, tours and programs.
- Raised \$4 million over 3 years, hired full staff and trained my replacement.
- Professionalized the fundraising, archives and collections, communication and programming functions of the Foundation, including launching a new brand and extensive community outreach.

### **Portfolio Creative Director** - Freeman, Inc. **2019 - 2020**

- Led creative direction & experience strategy for major clients like American Alliance of Museums, National Association of Broadcasters Expo, Chicago Comic and Entertainment (C2E2) Expo.

### **Board Member** - Museum of Broadcast Communications **2019 - 2023**

### **Executive Director** - Museum of Broadcast Communications **2018 - 2019**

- Eliminated \$4 million in institutional debt and started MBC's first endowment.
- Negotiated and managed major traveling exhibitions (SNL, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame).
- Reorganized and streamlined management structure. Led new strategic planning.

### **Vice President, Design and Exhibits** - Milwaukee Public Museum **2014 - 2017**

- Planned and implemented exhibition strategy that helped increase yearly attendance 33%.
- Led design, development and implementation for major galleries and temporary exhibits.
- Oversaw multi-year traveling exhibition program.
- Introduced and implemented new digital technologies for the visitor experience.

### **Director of Experience Design** - Adler Planetarium **2007 - 2014**

- Expanded and led the Exhibit, Graphic Design, Web & Social Media Departments.
- Oversaw diverse user-centered design projects and provided leadership for major exhibitions.
- Led the identification and acquisition of key artifacts from NASA.

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## **CEO and Executive Creative Director** - Nogginaut, Inc.

**2002 - 2007**

- Co-founded and led an experience design company that specialized in innovative digital experiences for physical spaces and exhibits.
- Grew to ~\$900k in annual sales.
- Clients include: The Field Museum, Houdini Historical Museum, McWane Science Center, Discovery World, Delta Airlines, SubZero, Derse, Gieco, Samsung, Volkswagen.

## **Vice President, Design** - Closerlook, Inc

**1994 - 2001**

- Founded and developed 23 person creative department for a strategic marketing firm.
- Won design/creative awards across multiple media.

## **Game Designer/Writer** - Mayfair Games

**1992 - 1994**

- Created role-playing games and resources for Dungeons & Dragons, DC Comics and more.

## **Other Relevant Work Experience**

- Instructor- Design and Human-Computer Interaction, DePaul University
- Stage, Costume and Lighting Design - Arena Theater, Center Theater
- Illustrated Over 40 Children's Books
- Professional affiliations: AIGA, IAAPA, ASTC, TEA and AAM

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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### **Selected Volunteer Experience**

- Board of Directors - Museum of Broadcast Communications
- Board of Directors - Ten Thousand Villages (Fair Trade)
- Welcome Family / Fundraiser - Exodus World Service (Immigrant & Refugee Resettlement)
- Creative Director- OneWheaton (LGBTQ Support Group for Wheaton Students and Alumni)
- Organizer- Koinonia South Africa (Anti-Apartheid Movement)

### **Selected Project Awards**

- Museum & Digital Storytelling Conference, featured selection
- Silver MUSE Award, Multimedia Installations
- Association of Licensed Architects: Gold design award
- AIA Chicago: Winner, Small Project Structure, Citation of Merit
- Exhibitor Magazine Sizzle Award
- HOW Magazine Interactive Design Award

### **Education**

- Wheaton College (IL) - Studio Art (w/ Theater Concentration)
- Northwestern University - Museum Studies

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## SELECTED MUSEUM PROJECTS

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**Henry Darger Immersive Experience** - Intuit: The Museum of Intuitive and Outsider Art, Permanent Multi-floor Gallery, Opens December 2024

**The Pullman Strike of 1894** - Pullman Exhibit Hall, Temporary Exhibition, Opens May 2024

**From Wrecking Ball to National Park** - Temporary, Pullman Exhibit Hall, 2023

**Railroaders: Jack Delano's Homefront Photography** - Traveling Exhibition, Pullman Exhibit Hall, 2022

**Louder Than Words: Rock, Power, Politics** - Traveling Exhibition, Museum of Broadcast Communication, 2019

**Stay Tuned: Rock on TV** - Traveling Exhibition, Museum of Broadcast Communication, 2019

**Saturday Night Live: The Experience** - Semi-Permanent Experience, Museum of Broadcast Communication, 2018

**Weapons** - Temporary Exhibition, Milwaukee Public Museum, 2017

**Global Kitchen** - Traveling Exhibition, Milwaukee Public Museum, 2017

**Hidden Wisconsin** - Temporary Exhibition, Milwaukee Public Museum, 2016

**Ultimate Dinosaurs** - Traveling Exhibition, Milwaukee Public Museum, 2016

**Streets of Old Milwaukee** - Permanent Exhibition, Milwaukee Public Museum, 2015

**Crossroads of Civilization** - Permanent Exhibition, Milwaukee Public Museum, 2014

**Planets On A Path** - Temporary Experience, Adler Planetarium, 2014

**Space Shuttle Simulator** - Temporary Experience, Adler Planetarium, 2013

**Our Solar System** - Permanent Exhibition, Adler Planetarium, 2013

**Star Theater Approach** - Permanent Experience, Adler Planetarium, 2012

**The Universe: Walk Through Space and Time** - Perm. Exhibition, Adler Planetarium, 2012

**Clark Family Welcome Gallery** - Permanent Exhibition, Adler Planetarium, 2011

**Planet Explorers** - Permanent Exhibition, Adler Planetarium, 2010

**Telescopes: Through the Looking Glass** - Permanent Exhibition, Adler Planetarium, 2009

**Ancient Americas** - Digital and Interactive Design, Field Museum of Natural History, 2007

**Alabama Dinosaurs** - Digital and Interactive Design, McWane Science Center, 2006

**Innovation Station** - Digital and Interactive Design, Discovery World Museum, WI, 2006

**Pit Stop Experience** - Digital and Interactive Design, National Corvette Museum, 2005

**Houdini Hits the Road** - Digital and Interactive Design, Houdini Historical Society, 2003

**Ball Enterprises and Toy Maker** - Digital and Interactive Design, Museum of Science and Industry, 2001

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