

Summer Hess | Organizational Consultant

Wenatchee, Washington | (509) 828-0462 | summer@sagestepconsulting.com

EDUCATION

Certificate in Facilitation: PLTI – Local & State Government + Civic Skills (2025)
Certificate in Art of Hosting & Conversations That Matter (2024)
Certificate in Public Engagement: International Association of Public Participation (2024)
Certificate in Facilitation: PLTI – Personal Leadership & Empowerment (2023)
M.F.A. in Nonfiction Writing, Eastern Washington University (2012)
Fulbright Scholar, Chile (2011)
B.A. in English with Spanish minor, Gardner-Webb University (2006)

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

[One-Block Revolution: 20 Years of Community Building](#) (2019)
Writing Across the Curriculum: [Visual Thinking Strategies in the Composition Classroom](#) (2019)
High Desert Museum Anthology of Desert Writing: [Terra Incognita Atacama](#) (2019)
The Spinoff: [How the FESTA festival of urban renewal is creating magic out of disaster](#) (2016)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Organizational Consultant

Sage Step: Wenatchee, WA (2018-present)

- Lead strategic planning processes
- Manage social impact projects of various sizes and complexities
- Guide community engagement strategies
- Launch and manage coalition work
- Facilitate meetings
- Write copy for annual reports, websites, presentations, and collateral
- Edit articles for academic and general audiences
- Create communications strategy
- Draft fundraising proposals

Organizational Consultant

Measure Meant: Spokane, WA (2021-2023)

- Facilitate strategic planning and deployment
- Draft social & environmental impact policies
- Complete organizational and operational assessments
- Support organizations in change management
- Facilitate nonprofit partnerships and community engagement programs
- Add capacity and project management support
- Guide businesses through B Corp Certification

Community Manager

Mercantile Co-working Space: Wenatchee, WA (2019-2021)

- Coordinate messaging and communications with members and partners
- Assist with management of website and social media
- Manage CRM platform (Nexodus and Office RnD) and sales
- Assist with bookkeeping duties

Managing Editor

Out There Outdoors magazine: Spokane, WA (2017-2021)

- Research and understand trends in the outdoor industry
- Perform content and copy editing and write copy
- Manage pitches and submissions of 50+ contributing writers
- Contribute to strategic and long-term sustainability planning
- Administer day-to-day operations of publication
- Develop content strategy with publisher and editor-in-chief
- Plan and assign print and digital content

Communications Manager & Project Manager

Community Building Campus: Spokane, WA (2013-2018)

- Support community-centered development on West Main Ave.
- Co-lead strategic planning to engage 32 tenant organizations plus community partners
- Host stakeholder conversations to identify common values and potential collaborations
- Edit and manage website, including launch of brand-new website and brand assets
- Oversee rollout of new communications and outreach efforts
- Launch Niche co-working space on campus
- Manage small business loan program for Saranac Commons startups
- Overhaul emergency response procedures and building operations with lead staff
- Organize community events with assistance from executive committee and intern
- Host professional development series for nonprofits and mission-driven businesses

Writing Coach

Eastern Washington University Writers' Center: Cheney, WA (2009-2017)

- Respond to student and faculty writing in one-on-one writing conferences
- Facilitate in-person and online sessions
- Write grant proposals to support programming
- Help students understand and apply a variety of style guides
- Train and supervise new staff and work-study students
- Facilitate group orientations

Engaged Faculty Scholar Program

Eastern Washington University: Cheney, WA (2015-2016)

- Write grant proposal to fund service-learning course
- Develop curriculum and lesson plans
- Co-create service-learning projects for English 101 course with museum staff
- Serve as a liaison between EWU and the Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture
- Meet regularly with cohort of service-learning faculty

Quarterly Faculty

Eastern Washington University: Cheney, WA (2013-2016)

- Teach COMP 101 College Composition: Exposition and Argumentation
- Teach COMP 201 College Composition: Analysis, Research and Writing
- Teach EDUC 196 Social Media for Social Change
- Teach EDUC 196 Media Makeover
- Teach ITGS 197 Service-Learning Experience to Moab, Utah

Retention Specialist

Eastern Washington University's Academic Success Center: Cheney, WA (2012-2013)

- Advise first generation, low-income students on major and graduation requirements
- Navigate electronic data systems utilized in higher education such as Banner
- Update tracking spreadsheets for statistical analysis and reporting
- Create curriculum and instructed First Year Experience and service-learning courses
- Partner with outdoor recreation department on service-learning opportunities
- Participate in professional development opportunities such as NACADA

Educational Program Assistant

Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture: Spokane, WA (2012)

- Manage outcomes for grant reporting
- Develop and facilitate curriculum and programming for student docents
- Manage docent schedules
- Maintain budget records and meet regularly with supervisor
- Create and curate the MAC Teen Interpreter blog
- Organize events for +200 students

Editor and Translator of Exhibitions

Archeology Museum Gustavo Le Paige: San Pedro de Atacama, Chile (2011-2012)

- Editor and Translator of Exhibitions

Graduate Student Assistant

Spokane Falls Community College: Spokane, WA (2011)

- Prepare lectures and critique student work in ENGL 236: Creative Writing I

Teacher Trainer

Russian Ministry of Education: Tatarstan, Russia (2010)

- Teach master class in English for public school teachers

Assistant Editor

Eastern Washington University: Spokane, WA (2009-2010)

- Edit InRoads, the Writers in the Community anthology by Eastern Washington University

Editorial Assistant

Eastern Washington University: Spokane, WA (2009)

- Assist with production of Willow Springs literary magazine assist with communications for Eastern Washington University Press

Research and Development Assistant

Community Minded Enterprises: Spokane, WA (2009)

- Research grant opportunities
- Compose and edit grant proposals
- Create and track budgets
- Contribute to strategic meetings

Creative Writing Instructor

Eastern Washington University: Spokane, WA (2008-2010)

- Plan classroom activities and teach for Writers in the Community Program at North Central High School & West Central Community Center

Migrant Education Support Specialist

U.S. Department of Education: Kennett Square, PA (2008-2010)

- Develop curriculum
- Teach freshman-senior English classes to facilitate student learning over the summer
- Supervise field trips
- Connect students to other resources and services

English Language Summer School Coordinator and Instructor

Fundación Minera Escondida: San Pedro de Atacama, Chile (2007)

Develop curriculum

Teach classes on English for professional environments

Teacher Trainer and ESL Instructor

Chilean Ministry of Education: San Pedro de Atacama, Chile (2006)

Develop curriculum

Teach classes on English for professional environments