

DIANA SIMONDS

(310) 940-8081 | diana.simonds@duke.edu | dianasimonds.com

EDUCATION

Duke University; M.A., Digital Art History & Computational Media

2025 – Expected Dec. 2026

Claremont McKenna College; B.A., Philosophy & Film (Dual Degree, Honors)

2020 – 2024

- Honors senior thesis: “Para Ser Cambiado, Ser El Cambio.”

WORK EXPERIENCE

Founder’s Associate

Aug. 2026 – Present

The Art Plug, Miami, FL

- Support artist and founder Marcel Katz across creative projects, partnerships, and business initiatives.
- Manage partner communications, scheduling, digital records, and presentation decks for collaborative projects.
- Produce organic content and coordinate partnerships and event preparations for Miami Art Week.

Founder & Art Advisor

Jun. 2026 – Present

Diana Simonds Art Advisory, Miami, FL

- Guide clients in defining their aesthetic, sourcing artwork, and building personalized collections.
- Present acquisition recommendations and negotiate artwork pricing on behalf of clients.
- Coordinate shipping, framing, international imports when applicable, and installation; balance design vision with long-term collection value.

Creative Direction & Social Media Lead

Jan. 2026 – Present

Muse System Enterprises, Miami, FL

- Lead creative direction, design, and marketing strategy across the product portfolio.
- Direct screenwriting, animation, and brand marketing for the *UglyDolls* YouTube series.
- Test and refine products using feedback and coordinate enhancements with external partners.

Teaching Assistant & Research Assistant

Dec. 2025 – May 2026

Duke University, Durham, NC

Teaching Assistant

- Developed lesson plans, led classes on emerging technology and ethics, and coached undergraduate students.

Research Assistant

- Researched forced labor in Nazi-occupied Krakow with Dr. Paul Jaskot; analyzed 300+ video testimonies in under six weeks.

Exhibition & Communications Manager

Jan. 2024 – Jun. 2025

International Arts & Artists, Washington, DC

- Promoted from intern to manager in under six months; managed exhibition projects and curator relationships.
- Authored an 80-page board report and supported trustee onboarding and board communications.
- Grew social following from 10K to 50K+ in one year; managed paid campaigns and exhibition marketing.
- Coordinated NATO symposium logistics, partner outreach, grant support, and staff onboarding.

Lead Student Research Analyst

Aug. 2022 – May 2024

The Gould Center, Claremont, CA

- Researched race, spirituality, and hip-hop for Dr. Gaston Espinosa; presented findings to faculty.
- Led weekly Instagram livestreams and organized an academic symposium with Ukrainian scholars.

HONORS & EXTRACURRICULARS

- Short film selected for the “Clean Air Day” Film Festival.
- DAHVC Research Lab, Mapping Occupied Krakow (2026): mapped architectural labor and archived testimonies.
- ASCMC Club Liaison (2020): coordinated student clubs, events, and budgets.

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

- Languages: English (native), Spanish (advanced), Portuguese (conversational), French (beginner).
- Advanced graphic design, video production, and camera operation across Adobe and Google suites.