

Vasilis-Chukwunonso Onwuaduegbo

vonwuaduegbo@yahoo.com | 19 I St NW, Washington DC, 20001 | +1 (240) 413-5159

Summary –

Vasilis-Chukwunonso Onwuaduegbo is a queer Greek-born Nigerian American artist, entrepreneur, and human rights advocate.

In his capacity as an advocate, Vasilis has worked at several social cause institutions in cities like New York, Paris, and Indianapolis on issues relating to immigration, the LGBTQ community, African development, human trafficking, amongst other pressing issues that disempower and dehumanize individuals in favor of capital or bigoted ideologies.

Vasilis has served as a co-curator of the 'Where is South' exhibition at The Africa Center in NYC, where his art piece Full Reflections was showcased. He is also a former Gotham Writers Workshop student, and he has received several accolades for his essays and short stories.

Shedding the Archive, For New Beginnings is his self-publishing debut, and he currently lives and creates in Washington, D.C.

Education –

Sciences Po – Paris, Île-de-France, France

Master's in Human Rights and Humanitarian Action

August 2020 – June 2022

Regional Concentration: Africa | Thematic Concentration: Global Economy | Language: French

George Mason University – Fairfax, Virginia, USA

Summer Study Abroad Internship Program

May 2017 - August 2017

Internship Placement: Beautiful World Canada; Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

BA (Honors) in Global and International Studies (cum laude)

August 2014 - August 2017

Regional Concentration: Africa | Thematic Concentration: Global Development | Language: Spanish

Work Experience (expanded descriptions in appendix) –

Free the Slaves – Indianapolis, Indiana and Washington, DC

Development Assistant

May 2023 – September 2023

DHL – Indianapolis, Indiana

Logistics Officer

March 2023 – May 2023

CSR Advisors – Indianapolis, Indiana

Tax Preparation Consultant

January 2023 – March 2023

Sidechat – Indianapolis, Indiana and New York, New York

Growth Marketer

November 2022 – January 2023

Eleven Thirty-Six – Paris, France and New York, New York

Consultant focused on strategy, press outreach and copywriting

August 2021 – February 2022

Pride Afrique – Paris, France and Johannesburg, South Africa

Co-Creator in charge of Production and Partnerships

June 2021 – January 2022

Presentism Travel – Paris, France and Dakar, Senegal

Head of Operations

August 2022 – September 2022

Babylangues – Paris, France

Tutor

May 2022 – July 2022

JSA Consulting – Paris, France

Media and Technical Writing Consultant

February 2022 – April 2022

The Africa Center – New York, New York, USA

Special Assistant to the CEO

June 2018 – April 2020

The LGBT Community Center – New York, New York, USA

Immigrant Support Group Facilitator

October 2018 - April 2019

Juice Press – Brooklyn, New York, USA

Server

March 2018 – June 2018

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center – New York, New York, USA

Porter

January 2018 – March 2018

Resort World Casino New York – Queens, New York, USA

Income Audit

December 2017 – January 2018

Sephardic Academy of Manhattan – New York, New York, USA

Receptionist

December 2017 – December 2017

Adaptive Educational Services – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Accommodation Support Professional

January 2015 – November 2017

Beautiful World Canada – Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Fundraising and Social Media Intern

May 2017 - August 2017

City Barbeque – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Server

March 2016 – Feb 2017

Exodus Refugee Immigration – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Intern

August 2015 – February 2016

Psychology Advising Center – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Peer Advisor

August 2015 – December 2015

Bepko Learning Center at IUPUI – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Biology Mentor

May 2015 – December 2015

Indiana Election Commission – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Election Clerk

November 2014

Experience in Professionalism – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Peer Mentor

January 2015 - July 2015

America Read/America Counts – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Tutor

November 2014 - January 2015

Publications –

Shedding the Archive, For New Beginnings

Author

September 2023

Curatorial Work –

**Where Is South Exhibit at The Africa Center with the Moleskine Foundation – New York,
New York, USA**

Assistant Curator

June 2019

Exhibition History –

**Where Is South Exhibit at The Africa Center with the Moleskine Foundation – New York,
New York, USA**

Featured Artist

June 2019

Residencies/Fellowships/Workshops –

**AtWork 'Where Is South' Workshop with Simon Njami, the Moleskine Foundation and
The Africa Center – New York, New York, USA**

AtWorker

June 2019

Trainings –

Gotham Writers' Workshop – New York, New York, USA

Fiction Writing, I

July 2019

Volunteer Work –

Immigration Equality – New York, New York, USA

Photographer

October 2019

Immigrant Welcome Center – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Spanish Translator

October 2016 - December 2016

Catholic Charities of Indianapolis – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Volunteer

October 2016 - December 2016

Ronald McDonald House of Indiana – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Volunteer

January 2015 – May 2015

Riley Children's Hospital – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Volunteer

January 2015 – May 2015

Panels/Events –

Black and Abroad event at IUPUI – remotely from Paris, France

Panelist

April 2021

Model United Nations at IUPUI – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Facilitator

March 2017

Live Local, Think Global – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Immigrant Welcome Center – Organizer

October 2016

Cesar Chavez Day of Service – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Community Service Scholar – Organizer

March 2016

iServe – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Coordinator

October 2015

Experience in Professional Recognition Event – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Keynote

May 2015

Awards –

Bourse de Cite Universitaire - 2021

Educational funding from the French government - 2021

University of Indianapolis Fellowship - 2017

Cum Laude Degree: In the Top 10% of the Class of 2017 - 2017

Honors: Graduated from The Honors College of IUPUI - 2017

Honors College Study Abroad Scholarship - 2017

School of Liberal Arts Scholarship - 2016

Olaniyan Scholars Program - 2015

Indiana University Foundation Scholarship - 2015

Bekpo Learning Center Scholarship - 2015

Educational Success Award - 2015

Hoosier Family Scholarship - 2015

University College Award - 2015

Community Service Scholarship - 2015

Dean List – 2015, 2016, 2017

Interviews –

Why Blame Us? – New York, New York, USA

Participant

June 2020

Pride Documentary – Brooklyn, New York, USA

Participant

December 2018

Presentations –

Student Talks - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Speaker

April 2017

Olaniyan Research Day - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Researcher

May 2016

Research –

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis, School of Science: Department of Psychology - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Head Researcher: Tamika Zapolski

Duties: Editing, Revision, Survey Administration, Data Collection, Data Entry, Data Management, Analysis of Research Documents, Google Scholar, Research Catalogs E.G. Proquest, Ebsco, SPSS, IRB and more

Extracurricular Activities –

African Artivists - Manhattan, New York, USA

Founder and Organizer

2018

African Student Association - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Secretary

2016

Undergraduate Student Government - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Senator

2016

Jag Rage (Jaguar Spirit Organization) - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Senator

2016

Health Careers Club - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Marketing Coordinator

2016

Homecoming Planning Committee - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Marketing Coordinator

2016

Golden Key Honor Society - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Member

2016

Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Member

2015

Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Member

2015

Student African American Brotherhood - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Member

2014

Diversity Enrichment and Achievement Program - Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Member - Grit Award

2014

APPENDIX

Work Experience –

Free the Slaves – Indianapolis, Indiana and Washington, DC

Development Assistant

May 2023 – September 2023

DHL – Indianapolis, Indiana

Logistics Officer

March 2023 – May 2023

International Center for Advocacy on the Right to Health (ICARH) – Abuja, Nigeria

Research Consultant

May 2021 – July 2021

- As part of the research for my master's thesis, I built relationships with several advocacy and civil society organizations in Nigeria including ICARH, Crème de la Crème, The Initiative for Equal Rights (TIERs) amongst others.
- Carried out a field visit to the ICARH headquarters in Abuja and participated in meetings with key partners, staff members, and board members.

CSR Advisors – Indianapolis, Indiana

Tax Preparation Consultant

January 2023 – March 2023

Sidechat – Indianapolis, Indiana and New York, New York

Growth Marketer

November 2022 – January 2023

Eleven Thirty-Six – Paris, France and New York, New York

Consultant focused on strategy, press outreach and copywriting

August 2021 – February 2022

- Provided clients with communication strategy, branding guidance, and press coverage in client-specified media companies/publications.

- Supported the coordination of the Hue Arts NYC consortium (that comprised of several art institutions in New York City like the Laundromat Project, Museum Hue, and Hester Street) to develop strategies and tools that worked to create awareness about the project and the way it benefitted resident New Yorkers and visitors to the city.
- Identified production partners, supervised content development, and ensured the production of appropriate and high-quality communication materials.
- Identified a network of journalists and media partners using a platform called Muck Rack, for the purpose of building a database of individuals and institutions that shared values with E36 clients.

Pride Afrique – Paris, France and Johannesburg, South Africa

Co-Creator in charge of Production and Partnerships

June 2021 – January 2022

- Coordinated communications within the Pride Afrique ecosystem and took charge of communication with external parties in matters related to press coverage, the procurement of contract labor and much more.
- Served as custodian of the Pride Afrique brand, ensuring that all communications and related items were in line with branding requirements.
- Coordinated several online programs, both in-line with globalized campaigns (like Pride) and events developed in response to institutional ambitions.
- Served as one of the main content managers; creating graphics and flyers, editing videos, and drafting necessary prep material for guests and participants.
- Ensured that principles of linguistic justice were embedded throughout the execution of Pride Afrique by taking charge of the French language events and spearheading the inclusion of Portuguese during the keynote event.
- Led the execution of the 2021 pride festival by translating the volunteer labor offered by numerous LGBTQ+ activists into a cohesive program that could be enjoyed by thousands of queer Africans and allies.
- Spearheaded the process of cultivating a formal relationship between the University of Pretoria in South Africa and Pride Afrique, so that Pride Afrique could expand the pride event offerings in 2022.
- Engaged proactively in the setting of Pride Afrique agenda for the 2021 event and led the initial strategy sessions for the 2022 event.

Presentism Travel – Paris, France and Dakar, Senegal

Head of Operations

August 2022 – September 2022

- Aided the founder with the execution of an educational trip to Senegal, during the festive season of Magal.
- Served as the main French-English translator on the core team.

JSA Consulting – Paris, France

Media and Technical Writing Consultant

February 2022 – April 2022

- Analyzed survey data collected during the evaluation of women's rights promotion projects in Nigeria.
- Created a donor-facing report with testimonies that affirmed the success of the program.
- Contributed to the process of documenting and communicating the experience and lessons learned during the Women's Voice and Leadership project facilitated by Deep Dive Nigeria with support from Global Affairs Canada.
- Developed a report on behalf local partners based on conversations with the principal of JSA Consulting and the stakeholders in Nigeria.
- Measured progress against initial project expectations, ensuring the plans were implemented as outlined.
- Collaborated with the monitoring and evaluation department of JSA Consulting in the formulation of communication campaigns and a framework for the assessment of success.
- Contributed to the development of material that can be used for training purposes with local partners.

The Africa Center – New York, New York, USA

Special Assistant to the CEO

June 2018 – April 2020

- Managed communication between the executive staff and the board on several subjects including budgetary and financial matters.

- Organized the in-person and virtual meetings of the board, the executive team, and the key consultants (focused on fundraising, communication strategy and building construction).
- Assisted with the implementation of the communications strategic plan presented by Sutton PR New York.
- Utilized my writing skills and my knowledge of philanthropy to develop grant applications and create reports that monitored progress.
- Employed a flexible attitude that allowed for the thorough success of several high-value events like the Future Africa Forum organized collaboratively by The Africa Center, the Aliko Dangote Foundation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- Supported the Fundraising Consultant and the in-house employees with development duties (the Head of Programs, and the Chief Operating and Financial Officer).
- Contributed to the creation of fundraising materials for government grants, and the solicitation of foundation, corporate, and individual giving.
- Administration of the office and the main facility (which was open to the public).
- Created and distributed content on social media and via email.
- Supported the Chief Executive Officer with numerous functions and duties including travel and fundraising.

The LGBT Community Center – New York, New York, USA

Immigrant Support Group Facilitator

October 2018 - April 2019

- Collaborated with other departments at the LGBT Center, with organizations like the New Museum and the New York City Department of Workforce Development (amongst other important stakeholders necessary for the successful integration of migrants into society like lawyers, health clinics and potential employers).
- Planned, led, and participated in workshops designed to teach new LGBTQ migrants about being resident in New York City and about acclimatizing to life in the United States.
- Facilitated trainings and animated creative spaces for partners and key allies using the Center's pedagogical resources and methodologies, reinforcing their ability to support migrants from all creeds and walks of life.

Juice Press – Brooklyn, New York, USA

Server

March 2018 – June 2018

Jacob K. Javits Convention Center – New York, New York, USA

Porter

January 2018 – March 2018

Resort World Casino New York – Queens, New York, USA

Income Audit

December 2017 – January 2018

Sephardic Academy of Manhattan – New York, New York, USA

Receptionist

December 2017 – December 2017

Adaptive Educational Services – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Accommodation Support Professional

January 2015 – November 2017

- Prepared important paperwork necessary to provide aid to students with documented disabilities.
- Proctored examinations for Adaptive Educational Services (AES) clients who are in need of extra time or who need to take exams in isolation because of anxieties or other special needs.
- Manned the front desk when the office was short staffed.
- Received, returned and recorded phone calls made to the office on behalf of clients.
- Managed emails that were sent to the office and ensured that it received the appropriate response.
- Assisted in the office with miscellaneous activities such as cleaning up and locking up the office.
- Relayed messages (emails and voicemails) to the other employees that were in positions to respond appropriately.
- Scheduled and rescheduled exams, intakes and appointments for AES clients and individuals seeking help.
- Tracked the movement of clients and employees in and out of the office.
- Delivered exams that have been written by AES clients to the respective professors.
- Booked and ensured that AES clients attained access to interpreters (American Sign Language).
- Filled complaints from AES clients about individuals, groups or professors.
- Achieved and filed paperwork (medical documents, intake papers) for each client the AES works with.
- Served as a receptionist at the front desk and interacted with clients and visitors.
- Assisted other full-time employees in the office with miscellaneous activities with the tasks they couldn't find time to complete.

- Created, prepared and managed important records and reports necessary to provide aid to students with documented disabilities.
- Tracked the movement of clients and employees in and out of the office.
- Filed complaints from AES clients about individuals, groups or professors.
- Archived and filed paperwork (medical documents, intake papers) for each client the AES works with.

Beautiful World Canada – Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Fundraising and Social Media Intern

May 2017 - August 2017

- Led the social media and engagement aspect of the organization by utilizing my graphic designing and video editing skills to support the donor engagement initiative of the organization.
- Created and published more than a 100 picture and video content for social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter using Adobe products like Photoshop CC, Lightroom CC, Premiere Pro CC and more.
- Designed and developed marketing and outreach material for the organization direct mail campaign that was sent to nearly a 100 people.
- Performed other tasks such as proofreading and telemarketing when assigned by a supervisor or boss.
- Created flyers and promotional material for African Student Association events and meetings with the use of Microsoft Word and other services.
- Coordinated Beautiful World Canada's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram accounts along with their email list.
- Served as a receptionist at the front desk and interacted with clients and visitors at Adaptive Educational Services.
- Assisted other full-time employees in the office with miscellaneous activities with the tasks they couldn't find time to complete at Adaptive Educational Services and Beautiful World Canada.
- Created, prepared, and managed important records and reports necessary to provide aid to students with documented disabilities at Adaptive Educational Services.
- Created upwards of a 100 photo and video content for Facebook, Instagram, Twitter using Adobe products like Photoshop CC, Lightroom CC, Premiere Pro CC and more.

City Barbeque – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Server

March 2016 – Feb 2017

Exodus Refugee Immigration – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Intern

August 2015 – February 2016

- Manned the front desk and attended to guests and clients when the office was busy or short staffed.
- Completed miscellaneous activities around the office like filing of documents and arrangement of stationary.
- Contacted other offices on behalf of our clients.

Psychology Advising Center – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Peer Advisor

August 2015 – December 2015

- Manned the front desk when the office of the office.
- Received, returned and recorded phone calls made to the office by individuals in need of assistance.
- Managed emails that were sent to the office and ensured that it received the appropriate response.
- Assisted in the office with miscellaneous activities such as cleaning up and locking up the office.
- Relayed messages (emails and voice mails) to the academic advisors when I was incapable of giving the proper response.
- Tracked the movement of students in need of help in and out of the office.
- Advised psychology and neuroscience students on career and academic plans.
- Aided in the promotion and marketing of the office.
- Assisted psychology and neuroscience majors create their schedules and register for classes.

Bepko Learning Center at IUPUI – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Biology Mentor

May 2015 – December 2015

- Graded quizzes and tests taken by BIOL N212 students.
- Proctored the students when they took exams and quizzes.
- Provided the students with resources they could use to obtain better grades in exams and the class.
- Answered questions about the class and the subject matter (biology) that students had.
- Managed emails that were sent to me and ensured that it received the appropriate response.

Indiana Election Commission – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Election Clerk

November 2014

- Registered voters by checking their ID's and ensuring that they were in the right precinct.
- Tallied the votes and recorded it.
- Provided information about the election and how to vote.

Experience in Professionalism – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Peer Mentor

January 2015 - July 2015

- Attended workshops organized to teach professionalism.
- Organized a workshop, that talked about setting goals.
- Spoke at the final ceremony as a keynote.
- Acted as a guide for individuals in the program.
- Maintained and followed the progress of individuals in the program.

America Read/America Counts – Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

Tutor

November 2014 - January 2015