Kara Young

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SUMMARY

Strategic Partnerships • Platform Growth • Brand Ecosystems

Strategic partnerships and go-to-market leader who helped grow a civic-tech platform to \$500K+ revenue and \$13M+ pipeline. Builds repeatable GTM systems, partner ecosystems, and press-worthy narratives. Blends AI automation with hands-on brand craft to deliver faster cycles without losing strategic rigor and voice. Looking to grow within a team environment while working lean and learning from others.

work experience

Rainplan (SaaS) — Founding Director, Brand • PR • Marketing

2021–Present | Remote, Washington DC based office

- Owned public-sector GTM + strategic partnerships; contributed to \$13M+ pipeline and \$500K+ revenue.
- Built repeatable sales collateral/RFP narratives for municipalities, parks, and civic agencies.
- Partnered with the product to launch persona automations in-app and in HubSpot.
- Co-branded campaigns and education tools led to coverage in the Washington Post, Architectural Digest, and RESO.
- Established sales enablement + feedback loops that informed roadmap; supported early team building.
- Championed sector awards, US Water Alliance Outstanding Private Sector, and team wins to boost thought leadership and awareness.

Mockingbird Analytics — Consultant

|2019-2020 | Remote, Los Angeles Office

- Secured \$330K+ in public funding by convening program, data, and communications teams (client + partner orgs) and synthesizing diverse inputs into a single, funder-ready narrative and grant package.
- Built scalable partnership frameworks and cross-team rituals (briefs, decision docs, retro notes) that turned many ideas into one cohesive plan aligned to civic pain points and regional trust-building.

Starlux Games (Startup) — Channel Partnerships Manager

2017-2019 | Los Angeles, CA

- Led DTC launch on Amazon & Kickstarter; generated \$150K+ early revenue.
- Built creator/youth-org partnerships; launched Amazon CX workflows.
- Stood up a micro-influencer/UGC program end-to-end: sourced and vetted creators, negotiated rates and usage rights, wrote creative briefs, and tracked deliverables and performance against campaign goals.
- Owned community engagement across social channels: replied to comments/DMs, ran giveaways and referral/ambassador activations, and coordinated cross-posting with partner orgs to nurture loyal audiences.
- Managed the editorial calendar: planned seasonal themes and productdrop moments; wrote captions and light creative; scheduled posts across Instagram/TikTok/Pinterest

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Housing Corp. of America — Community Programs Manager 2017–2019 | Austin, TX

- Managed monthly program budgets (forecasting, purchase approvals, vendor payments) with on-time reporting and on-budget execution.
- Wrote and submitted a successful \$50K Disney grant (community/CSR) and owned post-award compliance and outcomes reporting.
- Planned and produced multiple community art exhibits each month, coordinating venues, permits, artists, volunteers, and sponsor activations; led promotion across email, social, and local press.

Freelance Assistant Director & Event Producer | 2011–2019

- Produced multimedia pitch decks; turned messaging into high-conversion visual storytelling.
- Created advertising campaign pitches and won for American Cancer Society, Georgetown Basketball, Center for Council, and Travel Channel shows.
- Skilled in event pre-production and execution of shooting and editing footage.

education

B.S., Radio–Television–Film — University of Texas at Austin FAMU Film Institute (Prague), Study Program.

technology

Notion \cdot ChatGPT \cdot Airtable \cdot Python \cdot Adobe Creative Suite \cdot Canva \cdot Figma \cdot HubSpot \cdot Google Analytics/Ads \cdot Meta Ads.

won press

Washington Post Home and Garden · Architectural Digest · RESO Panel Speaker · Multiple sector awards submitted and won for (team/individual) along with winning the US Water Alliance Outstanding Private Sector Org

key skills

Public-sector GTM \cdot Strategic Partnerships \cdot Ecosystem Development \cdot Product-Led Growth \cdot Co-marketing & PR \cdot Sales Enablement \cdot Stakeholder Engagement \cdot Messaging & Positioning \cdot Campaign Analytics \cdot Experiment Design \cdot Executive Communication