



DENISE ZUBIZARRETA, MALCM

Interdisciplinary Strategist

CONTACT:

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- 📍 Rio Rancho, NM
- 🌐 www.TheVampDeVille.com

SKILLS:

Web Design
Cybersecurity
Problem-Solving
Project Management
Strong Communication
Cultural Operations
Arts Leadership and Management
Stakeholder Engagement
Business Development

AWARDS:

CSU Outstanding Graduate (2025)
ALPFA Rising Star Award (2024)
Colin Richard Ferguson Ward
Fund Grantee (2023)
Inclusion, Diversity + Equity
Alliance (IDEA) Award (2021)

LANGUAGES:

English
Spanish

SUMMARY:

Denise Zubizarreta is a strategic communications leader and cultural operations strategist with more than two decades of experience translating complex ideas into audience-centered narratives across philanthropy, education, workforce development, and media.

EXPERIENCE:

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT + COMMUNICATIONS

New Mexico Local News Fund
2025 - Present

- Strategic communications leadership, donor engagement systems, and campaign messaging across statewide journalism initiatives
- Development operations, grant pipeline management, and cross-sector partnership coordination supporting local news sustainability

DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT + DEVELOPMENT

Latina Media Co
2024 - Present

- Audience engagement strategy and community growth initiatives
- Campaign messaging and cross-platform audience outreach
- Partnership development and sponsorship coordination

EDUCATION:

DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

PhD Student - Applied Social Justice

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Masters in Arts Leadership + Cultural Management (MALCM)

ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN

Bachelor of Fine Art - Fine/Studio Art (BFA)

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EXPERIENCE

NEW MEXICO LOCAL NEWS FUND

Director of Development + Communications

2025-Present

LATINA MEDIA CO.

Engagement + Development Director

2024-Present

Arts + Culture Writer

2023-Present

REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER

Assistant REACH Program Curator

Fall 2024

EPIC Arts Wellness Facilitator

Spring 2024

HYPERALLERGIC

Arts + Culture Writer

2022-Present

SOUTHWEST CONTEMPORARY

Arts + Culture Writer

2022-Present

BOHITI BOTANICA

Founder + CEO

2021-Present

THE VAMP DEVILLE

Artist - Independent Researcher

2017-Present

CICADA CREATIVE MAGAZINE

Director of Communications

2021-Present

MYCIRCLES

Director of User Engagement

2019-2020

THE O.M.E.N.

Chief Operating Officer

2015-2019

Director of Event Coordination

2014-2015

MYCIRCLES

Director of Business Development

2014-2018

Executive Project Manager

2014

THE DELTA FLEET

Director of Marketing + Public Relations

2017-2018

MIAMI'S MEDIA LAB

Director of Event Coordination

2013-2014

FRICTION GIRLS MODELING

Casting Manager - Show Host - Event Coordinator

2013-2014

ROGUE VIXENS

Photographer - Show Host - Event Coordinator

2013-2014

ARTISTIC VIBES

Director of Venue Coordination

2010-2012

U.S. NAVY

Master At Arms/EOD

2004-2006

THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY

Radio Disney On-Air Personality

2001-2004

DENISE ZUBIZARRETA

REFERENCES

TYA ANTHONY

EDUCATION DIRECTOR
REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER
TANTHONY@REDLINEART.ORG

BECKY BLACK, PH.D.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & HEAD OF ART HISTORY
ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN
RBLACK@RMCAD.EDU

CRISTINA ESCOBAR

EDITOR AND CO-FOUNDER
LATINA MEDIA CO.
CRISTINA@LATINAMEDIA.CO

LOUISE MARTORANO

MANAGING DIRECTOR - COLORADO
CAST - COMMUNITY ARTS STABILIZATION TRUST
LMARTORANO@CAST-SF.ORG

DINORAH NIEVES, PH.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LIBERAL ARTS
ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN
DNIEVES@RMCAD.EDU

MICHAEL SEMAN, PH.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ARTS MANAGEMENT
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
MICHAEL.SEMAN@COLOSTATE.EDU

DOUG KACENA

GALLERIST
K CONTEMPORARY DENVER + SANTA FE
DOUG@KCONTEMPORARYART.COM

DENISE ZUBIZARRETA

CERTIFICATIONS

CERTIFIED AI ETHICS AND GOVERNANCE
PROFESSIONAL
TONEX

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY
WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

UNIONS AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
UDEMY

ESG AND SOCIAL ACTIVISM
THE WHARTON SCHOOL

ARTS AND CULTURE STRATEGY
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SPECIALIZATION IN MODERN AND
CONTEMPORARY ART + DESIGN
THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

ARTS AND HERITAGE MANAGEMENT
CERTIFICATE
UNIVERSITÀ BOCCONI

FUNDRAISING ESSENTIALS CERTIFICATE
NONPROFIT READY

GRANT SEEKING ESSENTIALS CERTIFICATE
NONPROFIT READY

PROJECT MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

UNCONSCIOUS BIAS
LINKEDIN LEARNING

DRIVING ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY
FOR DEIB CERTIFICATE
LINKEDIN LEARNING

DIGITAL MARKETING AND E-COMMERCE
CERTIFICATE
GOOGLE

NONPROFIT BOARD MEMBER ESSENTIALS
CERTIFICATE
NONPROFIT READY

TEACHING CRITICAL THINKING THROUGH ART
SMITHSONIAN

DENISE ZUBIZARRETA

ORGANIZATIONS

AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

LATINO ENTERTAINMENT JOURNALISTS ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION

SECAC

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HISPANIC JOURNALISTS (NAHJ)

CLOUD SECURITY ALLIANCE | COLORADO

THE ASSOCIATION OF LATINO PROFESSIONALS FOR AMERICA
(ALPFA)

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHERS (ASMP)

AMERICAN LEGION

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMEDIANS

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS

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AWARDS

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE 2025 - **CSU**

RISING STAR AWARD 2024 - **ALPFA**

COLIN RICHARD FERGUSON WARD FUND 2023 GRANTEE - **REDLINE
CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER**

EMERGING BIPOC PLAYWRIGHTS PROJECT MENTEE - **REDLINE
CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER**

THE INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, AND EQUITY ALLIANCE AWARD (IDEA) -
RMCAD

THE QUALITY OF PAPER RESEARCH AWARD - **RMCAD**

THE CHUCK MATTOX MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - **RMCAD**

NATIONAL DEFENSE MEDAL - **U.S. NAVY**

MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS MEDAL - **U.S. NAVY**

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS MEDAL

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MEDAL

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EXHIBITIONS

2026

- HARWOOD ART CENTER, RITUALS OF PRACTICE AND MEMORY: "LA FAMILIA ZUBIZARRETA SANTIAGO."

2024

- REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER, SOLO EXHIBITION, "DESCANSA EN EL PODER," IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION (2024-2025)
- BRDG GALLERY, COLORADO PUBLIC HEALTH EXHIBITION (HIGH CONCENTRATION CANNABIS) IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION
- BEYOND WORDS LITERARY MAGAZINE, ISSUE 46, "SPRING LOVE," DIGITAL COLLAGE
- VOCIVIA MAGAZINE, "HEART OF THINE CARDS," - DIGITAL TAROT "THE EMPEROR."

2023

- MONICA HORN GALLERY, "BOHITI TAROT," - MIXED MEDIA, AURORA, CO.
- ROTUNDA GALLERY - ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN, "UNWAVERING" 1ST ANNUAL ALUMNI EXHIBITION, BOHITI BOTANICA PRODUCT DESIGN, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- MEMENTO MORI GALLERY, "TAROT," THE EMPEROR - MIXED MEDIA, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- NIZA KNOLL GALLERY, "HOLY MOLY, WHAT'S NEXT," IN OUR FUTURE - DIGITAL PAINTING, DENVER, CO.
- 311 GALLERY: "ROOTED: YOUR PLACE AT THE TABLE," HOW WILL YOU TAKE IT - CERAMIC, RALEIGH, NC.
- R GALLERY + WINE BAR: "INDUSTRIAL," OLAGARRO - SCULPTURE, BOULDER, CO.

2022

- BRDG PROJECT: "ART IN THE ROUND," FROZEN REFLECTIONS OF THOUGHT - MIXED MEDIA, DENVER, CO.
- THE COLLECTIVE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTER: "FINDING COMMON GROUND IN AN UNCOMMON WORLD," OLAGARRO - SCULPTURE, LAFAYETTE, CO.
- EDGE GALLERY: "THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED," ONE PILL AT A TIME - CERAMIC & ASSEMBLAGE, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- LITTLETON MUSEUM: "SPACE TO WONDER," ATROPHY - PHOTOGRAPHY, LITTLETON, CO.
- THE BOOK OF ARTS: "EMOTIONS," LA SANGRE LLAMA - REDUCTION RELIEF PRINT, ONLINE.

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EXHIBITIONS

- BURNINGWORD LITERARY JOURNAL: ISSUE 101: FEATURED ARTIST, ATROPHY, PICTURESQUE, & AT MY CORE - PHOTOGRAPHY ONLINE & PRINT.
- RUDE GALLERY - ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN: "ONE PILL AT A TIME," CERAMIC, SCULPTURE, AND ASSEMBLAGE SOLO IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- PHILIP J. STEELE GALLERY - ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN: "CELEBRATING THE BODY," SPRING LOVE, RESONATE, & WHERE IS MY MIND DIGITAL COLLAGE & ILLUSTRATION, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- SPARK GALLERY: "REVERSE IMAGE," LA SANGRE LLAMA - REDUCTION RELIEF PRINT, DENVER, CO.
- F&M COMPOUND: "FIELD TRIP: AN IMMERSIVE OUTDOOR ART EXPERIENCE," THE ALTER OF THE BOHITI - MIXED MEDIA ASSEMBLAGE, DENVER, CO.
- BRDG PROJECT: "BLANK SLATE PROGRAM," THE ALTER OF THE BOHITI - MIXED MEDIA ASSEMBLAGE, DENVER, CO.
- COURAGE KENNY REHABILITATION INSTITUTE: "58TH ANNUAL ART OF POSSIBILITIES," CHILD OF DIVORCE & EXPOSED - MIXED MEDIA & SCULPTURE, MINNEAPOLIS, MN.
- ROTUNDA GALLERY - ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN: "EL BOHÍO DEL BOHITI," SOLO EXHIBITION - INTERDISCIPLINARY IMMERSIVE INSTALLATION, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (ACBID): INDIGENOUS ARTIST SIDEWALK ART - PUBLIC ART UTE CIRCLE OF LIFE DESIGNER + SIDEWALK MURAL, ARTIST, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO: "TOCANDO TIERRA Y NUESTRAS RAÍCES ," PUERTO RICO IS NOT FOR SALE, DEATH - THE WORLD - THE LOVERS (FLAGS), GREELEY, CO.
- D'ART GALLERY: "SPOT ON 3," THE EMPEROR, MIXED MEDIA, DENVER, CO.
- EAST SIDE ART INSTITUTE: FEATURED ARTIST OCTOBER - NOVEMBER, ERIE, CO.

2021

- CORE NEW ART SPACE: "A THOUSAND WORDS," CHILD OF DIVORCE - MIXED MEDIA, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- EDGE GALLERY: "ON EDGE," EXPOSED - SCULPTURE & ASSEMBLAGE, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- PROVIDENCE ART CLUB: NATIONAL OPEN JURIED EXHIBITION, LA SANGRE LLAMA - REDUCTION RELIEF PRINT, PROVIDENCE, RI.
- CICADA CREATIVE MAGAZINE: ISSUE 4: (NEG)ENTROPY, LA VIDA, ON MY BLOCK, AND WHERE IS MY MIND - DIGITAL & ASSEMBLAGE, DENVER, CO.

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EXHIBITIONS

- PHILIP J. STEELE GALLERY - ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN: RMCAD 58TH ANNUAL STUDENT EXHIBITION LA SANGRE LLAMA - REDUCTION RELIEF PRINT, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- D'ART GALLERY: SPOT ON 2 JURIED EXHIBITION EXPOSED - SCULPTURE & ASSEMBLAGE, DENVER, CO.
- DENVER ZINE LIBRARY: 2022 CALENDAR OCTOBER - ILLUSTRATION, DENVER, CO. CICADA CREATIVE MAGAZINE: ISSUE 5: CATHARSIS, BOHITI TAROT - TAROT DECK ART, DENVER, CO.

2020

- DENVER ZINE LIBRARY 2021 CALENDAR: FEBRUARY - ILLUSTRATION, DENVER, CO.
- CICADA CREATIVE MAGAZINE: ISSUE 3: IDENTITY, ¿MI ISLA DEL ENCANTO? - DIGITAL PANTING & COLLAGE, DENVER, CO.
- LAS LAGUNA ART GALLERY: PORTRAITS EXHIBITION, IN THE DARK - DIGITAL PAINTING, LAGUNA BEACH, CA.
- REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER: "ONE SQUARE FOOT | SIX FEET APART," THERE IS BEAUTY EVERYWHERE - PHOTOGRAPHY, DENVER, CO.
- EMMANUEL ART GALLERY CU DENVER: "FUTURE OF NOW," OLAGARRO - SCULPTURE, DENVER, CO.
- ONLINE PERFORMANCE ART FESTIVAL: HOLY SHIT - VR GALLERY COLLABORATION | MIXED MEDIA, ONLINE.
- ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN: "STAGES: VOICES FROM THE RUNWAY," LA HIJA DE LA DIÁSPORA - FASHION ASSEMBLAGE, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- YOUR MOM'S HOUSE: ART BATTLE - DENVER, OLAGARRA - LIVE PAINTINGS, DENVER, CO.

2015

- MICROTHEATER MIAMI: "CODY," MICRO PLAY, WRITER & DIRECTOR, MIAMI, FL.
- FORT LAUDERDALE FRINGE FESTIVAL BROWARD COLLEGE: "CODY," MICRO PLAY, WRITER & DIRECTOR, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL.

2013

- RAW ARTISTS: "EN MASSE," DIRTY ARTISTIC FREEDOM - PHOTOGRAPHY, LMNT, MIAMI, FL.

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PRESENTATIONS

2026

- NEW MEXICO LOCAL NEWS FUND SUMMIT, SPEAKER, HOW IMAGES TRAIN BELIEF IN THE AGE OF AI
- HERA CONFERENCE, SPEAKER, DESCANSA EN EL PODER: CRITICAL AUTOETHNOGRAPHY, ANCESTRAL MEMORY, AND THE HUMANITIES AS RESISTANCE
- ASSOCIATION OF PERFORMING ARTS PROFESSIONALS NYC CONFERENCE, PANELIST ON AI AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

2025

- MIDWEST ART HISTORY SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE, "DECOLONIZING IDENTITY AND LEGACY THROUGH COLONIAL STOCKHOLM SYNDROME IN PUERTO RICO AND CUBA," DENVER, CO.
- MUJERES IN MARKETING MASTERCLASS, "THE STATE OF JOURNALISM," NEW YORK, NY.
- SECAC 2025 CONFERENCE, "STITCHING GENDER: TEXTILE NARRATIVES AND THE FLUIDITY OF IDENTITY IN ELSA MARÍA MELÉNDEZ'S WORK," CINCINNATI, OH.
- BSIDES ALBUQUERQUE, "CULTURAL FIREWALLS: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN NONPROFITS, ARTS ORGANIZATIONS, AND CYBERSECURITY," ALBUQUERQUE, NM

2024

- REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER, "COLONIAL STOCKHOLM SYNDROME: UNVEILING PUERTO RICO'S PSYCHOLOGICAL BONDS," DENVER, CO
- RMCAD STUDENT/ALUMNI RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: REVOLUTION: REDEFINING THE PRICELESSNESS OF ART - UNIONS, LABOR, AND THE REVOLUTION WE NEED, LAKEWOOD, CO.

2023

- RMCAD ART HISTORY, TAINO WARRIOR WOMEN
- RMCAD ART HISTORY, TAINO ARTIFACTS
- RMCAD STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM: TRANSFORMING HISTORY THROUGH ART: THE LATINA VISUAL ARTIST AS CURANDERA HISTORIAN, LAKEWOOD, CO.
- REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER: "WHERE ARE THE BOUNDARIES": AN EXPLORATION OF CREATIVE CONSCIOUSNESS, DENVER CO.

2022

- CRITICAL COMMONS: REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER, SPEAKER: THE ROLE ARTS CRITICISM PLAYS IN THE ARTS ECOSYSTEM, DENVER, CO.
- NATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE: FEMINISTS TALK WHITENESS, PANELIST, HILTON MINNEAPOLIS, MINNEAPOLIS, MN.

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PRESENTATIONS

- 48 HOURS OF SOCIALLY ENGAGED ART + CONVERSATION SUMMIT: LINGUISTIC MUTATION: THE PERSISTENCE OF HEGEMONY - WHY WE'RE STILL TRYING TO PUSH LATINX, SPEAKER, REDLINE CONTEMPORARY ART CENTER, DENVER, CO

2021

- HERA (HUMANITIES EDUCATION RESEARCH ASSOCIATION) CONFERENCE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO: THE MODERN BORIKÉN: THE EFFECTS OF COLONIZATION ON THE CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE STATEHOOD MOVEMENT, EL PASO, TX.
- RMCAD STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM* ROCKY MOUNTAIN COLLEGE OF ART + DESIGN: THE MODERN BORIKÉN: THE EFFECTS OF COLONIZATION ON THE CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE STATEHOOD MOVEMENT, LAKEWOOD, CO. * WINNER: QUALITY OF PAPER RESEARCH AWARD
- OUTSIDE THE BOOKS W/ DR. BECKY BLACK & DR. THOMAS E. KEEFE: CUBA, SPEAKER, RMCAD, LAKEWOOD, CO.

2020

- OUTSIDE THE BOOKS W/ DR. BECKY BLACK & DR. THOMAS E. KEEFE: PUERTO RICO, SPEAKER, RMCAD, LAKEWOOD, CO.