

# Jon Wasserman

[jonwasserman555@gmail.com](mailto:jonwasserman555@gmail.com) | (347) 204-5050 | [www.mechanismnice.com](http://www.mechanismnice.com) | [LinkedIn](#)

## Director

---

- Conscientious, provocative, strategic innovator with broad-based expertise leading effective transformation processes, product development, project management, and team leadership for programs benefiting impacted communities on a global scale.
- Exceptional human-centered project management abilities, with experience leading teams and special initiatives while promoting Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion principles, Sustainable Development Goals, and Social Responsibility values; Directed a global Social Impact practice to design solutions that meet the needs of underinvested communities; Directed an employee well-being initiative that supported bottom-up power and top-down transformation for increased personal agency and mission effectiveness.

### Core Competencies

- *Leadership and Team Building*
- *Strategic Planning and Implementation*
- *Driving Growth in Program Funding*
- *Fostering Strong Community Connections*
- *Project and Program Management*
- *Addressing the Needs of Underinvested Communities*
- *Exceptional Relationship Management Skills*
- *Managing Program Budgets & Finances*
- *Authoring Project Proposals*
- *Introducing Policies and Best Practices*

## Career Experience

---

### Aug. 2023 to Present: Adjunct Faculty, Parsons School of Design – The New School | BROOKLYN, NY (HYBRID) [12HRS/WK]

*Teaching lecture courses in the Undergrad (BBA) and Masters (MS) programs of Strategic Design & Management.*

- “Business of Design” (BBA) introduces system dynamics in the context of sustainable design of the operations of a business.
- “Ethical Leadership for Design Professionals” (MS) introduces students to current thinking about the leadership of design-driven projects and organizations, with special emphasis on the requirements of ethical leadership within complex systems and on social justice in a global context.
- “External Engagement Studio” (MS) introduces an iterative, sprint-based, end-to-end strategic design process where student teams develop solutions for organizational, civic, social, environmental, technological, and/or economic challenges. SP24’s partner was the Memorial Sloan Kettering, Design Innovation Group.

### Apr. 2023 to Present: Instructor/Facilitator/Coach, Luma Institute | BROOKLYN, NY (REMOTE) [4HRS/WK]

*The LUMA System empowers individuals, teams, and entire organizations to be more creative, collaborative, and customer-centered.*

Focused on delivering virtual teaching and coaching to participants of LUMA’s Practitioner Certification Program, Facilitator Certification Program, and Courses.

### Jul. 2021 to Present: Principal Director, Mechanism Nice | BROOKLYN, NY (HYBRID) [40HRS/WK]

*[Mechanism Nice](#) is an independent strategic design consultancy. We co-design the transformation of the current-state experience (product, service, culture, process, etc.) into a fresh, effective, strategic future-state which benefits the goals of impacted communities and environments.*

Co-creating, leading, and advising partners on transformational shifts in organization design, community voice, and product/experience resilience. Scope of accountability includes concept validation, nature-centered design research, initiative scoping and facilitation.

...continued...

# Jon Wasserman

Page | 2

**Mar. 2021 to Dec. 2021: Director of Special Projects, Agility Lab at The Nature Conservancy | BROOKLYN, NY (REMOTE)**  
[32HRS/WK]

*The Agility Lab at The Nature Conservancy is an in-house design-thinking consultancy helping teams modernize the ways they approach conservation.*

Led the Well-Being Learning Network, an executive sponsored initiative to improve staff well-being. Scope of accountability includes: Return to Office/Future of Work efforts, designing Learning Cohorts, producing Learning Events, strategic management coaching, and designing a Well-being Canvas template for concept strategy and design.

**Jul. 2018 to Jul. 2021: Global Lead, FrogImpact | BROOKLYN, NY [12HRS/WK]**

Led strategy, business development, and community for the firm's Social Impact practice, which designs solutions, systems, and strategies to address the needs of underinvested communities globally. Scope of accountability includes managing the worldwide portfolio of accounts, projects, identification and prioritization of focus areas, and strengthening network relationships.

- *Expanded the Social Impact pipeline of business opportunities and positioned the organization as a thought leader through public speaking, workshops, panel presentations, and attendance at conferences.*
- *Successfully broadened the company's reach beyond global humanitarian support, establishing a presence with social justice, climate, sustainability, education, and financial inclusion projects.*
- *Provided guidance and direction to C-level executive leaders on the progress and impact of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion initiatives, pro bono projects, and individual initiatives.*

**Aug. 2014 to Jul. 2021: Associate Director of Program Management | BROOKLYN, NY [40HRS/WK]**

Fulfilled a critical role building and leading programs for commercial and nonprofit clients across multiple industries. Managed program scope, contracts, risk, resources, budgets, and relationships with vendors to achieve all milestones and deliverables. Orchestrated end-to-end project management, including in-field and virtual design research, participant recruitment, stakeholder workshops, and the formulation of strategic recommendations. Influenced the NY program management team, NY studio culture & leadership, as well as the global business practice.

---

## Education

---

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - Bachelor of Arts Degree in Cinema / Television

ART CENTER COLLEGE OF DESIGN - Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Photography

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY - Master of Professional Services Degree in Interactive Telecommunications

**Coro Leadership NY (2013 to 2014)**

*Selected to participate in a nine-month, multi-sector cohort exploring civic leadership and New York City public policy.*

**John D. Solomon Fellowship (2013 to 2014)**

*Placed by the NYC Office of Emergency Management into NYCDigital, the tech sector and social media arm of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment.*

---

## Affiliations

---

**Creative Leader** – Neol | 2023 - Present

**Design Advisor** – Robin Hood, Income Volatility Cohort | 2019 - 2020

**Board Member** – Fort Greene Association | 2016 - 2020

**Policy Council** – South Bronx Early Head Start | 2018 - 2021