

Westerman









Thanks for connecting with me.

A strong writer with social media and design skills, I've created positive change for organizations in education, media, law, and government in North America, Europe, and East Asia.

Let's work together on strategic communications, brand protection, and storytelling.





EDUCATION

THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Bachelor of Arts English, Japanese linguistics

- Magna Cum LaudeThe Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Christ Church College Visiting Student Programme

• English, Japanese

SKILLS

Writing | Communications Strategy Social Media | Visual Design **Brand Management**



Engaging posts, blogs, infographics, and video are some of the ways I build dedicated audiences.



My incisive strategies have supported high-profile brands and helped them meet their goals.



Peruse a selection of projects in writing, visual design, video, and audio storytelling.



TESTIMONIALS

What good is work without great colleagues? Here are a few nice messages of support.

William's Portfolio

CONTENTS



I write, design, create strategy, and analyze data for social media.

Have I managed world-renowned brands? Created informative, fun content for more than one million sets of eyeballs? Navigated complex, matrixed international organizations? Why, yes!

"Thank you for all the amazing posts every week.

We are truly blessed to have a creative expert to run the social media content."

EducationUSA Adviser FEBRUARY 2025

EducationUSA

October 2021-Present

745,800+ followers

Facebook X (Twitter) Instagram LinkedIn YouTube

MY IMPACT

420% increase in followers; 16.6% increase in engagement 32.2% increase in shares; 1.4% increase in post impressions

The Fulbright Program

689,800+ followers

June 2019-September 2021



Facebook X (Twitter) Instagram

MY IMPACT

14.3% increase in followers; 199.4% increase in engagement 24.1% increase in shares; 2.3% increase in post impressions

Social Media Impact

METRICS

"EDUCATIONUSA" SOCIAL MEDIA VISUAL RE-DESIGN

The challenge? The U.S. Department of State's international student advising program, <u>EducationUSA</u>, maintains 430 advising centers in 175 countries and territories, with just as many social media accounts. Expansive brand guidelines and unclear guidance meant wildly different visual assets of varying quality.

My solution? Refining our visual guidelines. I prioritized two primary colors (white and black) and two patriotic accent colors (red and navy blue), replaced stock photos with high-quality assets from video shoots, and created a grid system and supplementary how-to guide to better support local creators.

The result? A high-contrast, fresh, and unified design concept, easily replicated by stakeholders of all professional backgrounds.

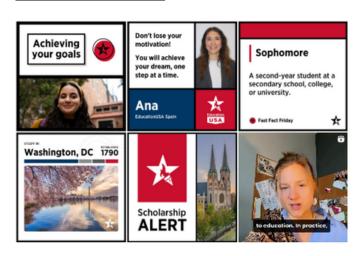
BEFORE



Instagram, July 2021

Average engagement rate: 3.27% Post impressions: 152,208 Post reach: 141,391

AFTER



Instagram, July 2024

Average engagement rate: 4.42% Post impressions: 168,081 Post reach: 147,446









"The feedback for the re-design has been very positive, from the advisers, the regional managers, and your colleagues at [the U.S. Department of State].

All have stated the excellence and impact."

Training Manager (Supervisor) September 2024



Social Media Impact

CASE STUDY



My communications campaigns have shaped narratives for international organizations, corporate firms, and high-profile government programs.

From pithy tweets to well-researched long-form articles, I take pride in creating the right narrative for the right audience.

"William's writing and copyediting is superb."

Assistant Director CommunicationsOCTOBER 2020

FULBRIGHT PROGRAM 75TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

The challenge? Create a 12-month, worldwide digital communications campaign celebrating 75 years of people-to-people exchange.

My solution? Leverage program archives, iconic alumni, and grantee submissions to create a campaign based on key areas of impact, while creating content in-house and managing a communications vendor.

The result? Twelve long-form articles, 48 alumni bios for a custom website and monthly newsletter, and a celebratory <u>90-minute Kennedy Center gala</u> event.

ANNIVERSARY WEBSITE

January-August 2021

53,598 users

98.5% new visitor rate

Updated content attracted new audiences

111,910 page views *10,000-15,000 page views per*

69,165 sessions

Users returned to the site on a regular basis

1.62 pages per session *Users dove deeper into content*

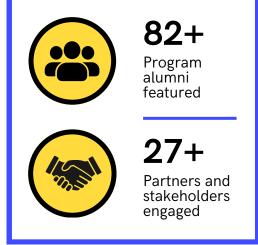
2:57 minutes average time on page

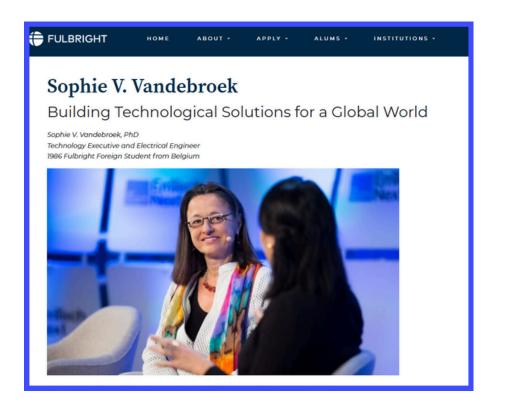
Above industry average of 62 seconds



Caption American soprano Renée Fleming hosts the Fulbright Program's 75th Anniversary Celebration in November 2021.







"William has been the rock for the 75th Anniversary project.

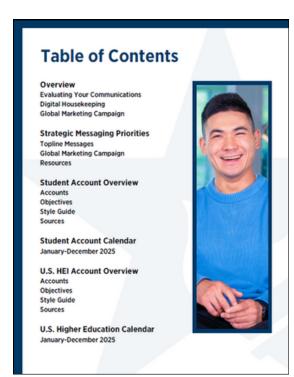
His work was high quality and greatly appreciated by [the U.S. Department of State]. His commitment to completing his work and meeting deadlines was critical to a successful campaign."

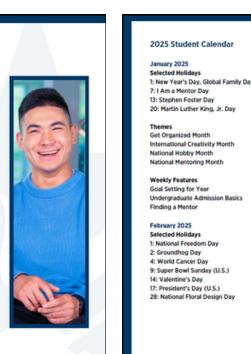
Senior Director Outreach & Communications October 2021



Strategic Communications

CASE STUDY





TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS GUIDE 2024, 55 pages

I pitched and created the first-ever comprehensive communications plan for EducationUSA, a U.S. government education program.

This guide provides topline messaging, a content calendar, and brand best practices to stakeholders at 400+ organizations in 175 countries.



Financial Aid Awareness Month

American Heart Month

Graduate Admission Basic

Choosing the Right School

14: National Butterflies Day

National Agriculture Day
 World Meteorological Day
 National Puppy Day

National Nutrition Month

National Reading Month

International Ideas Month

Virtual U.S. Campus Tours

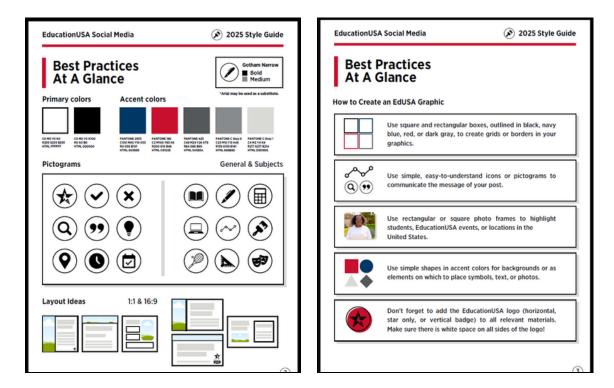
Weekly Features

17: Saint Patrick's Day

March 2025 Selected Holidays 1-7: Save Your Vision Week

Re-Release "Community College

BRANDING, EDITORIAL DESIGN, WRITING, STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY



SOCIAL MEDIA STYLE GUIDE 2025, 13 pages

I pitched and created the first-ever comprehensive visual style guide for EducationUSA's worldwide social media footprint.

This resource guides appearance and practice, providing staff with easy-to-replicate graphics at 400+ organizations in 175 countries.



DESIGN, CONSULTING, TRAINING, COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY BRAND COMPLIANCE

Strategic Communications

CASE STUDY



Peruse a selection of my work to see my skills in action.

Formal writing? Social media infographics? Multi-stakeholder communications campaigns? I find a way to handle it all through writing, visual design, video, and audio storytelling.

"Please know that all of the directors you've been working with think you've been doing a terrific job and know about your hard work and professionalism."

Senior Vice President
Director of Academic Relations
MARCH 2021

ARTICLES



A Life-Long Campaign to Protect the Planet

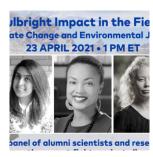
Kathryn S. Fuller profile
April 2021
Pitched, worked with subject, wrote



Fulbright Educators: Broadening Minds in the Classroom

Fulbright 75th Anniversary Impact Article March 2021 *Pitched, researched, wrote*

BLOGS



<u>"Fulbright Impact in the Field:</u> <u>Climate Change and Environmental Justice"</u>

Fulbright U.S. Student Blog, 2021 Coordinated panel, wrote takeaway blog



"Learning to See Beyond What Meets the Eyes"

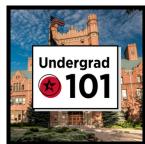
By Uyanga Erdenebold Fulbright U.S. Student Blog, 2021 Solicited, edited, published

SOCIAL MEDIA

Sample Posts

Writes, designs, and posts content for 5-6 days per week

YouTube





Facebook X (Twitter) Instagram LinkedIn

Managed Accounts



EducationUSA

Facebook (Ages 13-30)

Facebook (U.S. Professionals)

X (Twitter)

Instagram

LinkedIn

Former Accounts

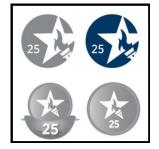


The Fulbright Program Facebook X (Twitter) Instagram LinkedIn YouTube

Work Samples

LINKS I

DESIGN



EducationUSA 25th Anniversary

Logo medallion redesign, 2023 *Pitched, designed*



Social Media Style Guide

"Best Practices At-A-Glance" excerpt, 2025 *Pitched, designed*

PODCASTING



Forever Online: Reaching Students on Their Terms

The EdGE Podcast episode, 2023 *Pitched, wrote, produced*



Straight From the Source: Education USA 101

The EdGE Podcast episode, 2024 *Pitched, wrote, produced*

VIDEO



<u>"Practical Training in the United States"</u>

Promotional video, 2024 *Co-conceived, posted, promoted*



"Call from Magdalena"

Instagram Reel video, 2025 Conceived, created, posted



"EdUSA Explains" Search Engine

Instagram Reel video, 2025 Conceived, created, posted

VIRTUAL PANELS



"Fulbright Impact in the Field: 75 Years of Public Diplomacy"

Thought leadership alumni panel, 2021 Executive produced, coordinated Work Samples

LINKS II



I've been fortunate to work with great colleagues and contribute to impactful programs and organizations.

From junior colleagues, to subject matter experts, to C-suite executives, my hard work and attention to detail have made me a dependable team player.

"I enjoy working with you, William."

U.S. Department of State
Academic Exchange Specialist
APRIL 2021

"William raised the bar of the communications team to a new level.

Our navigation through COVID has been a challenge, but William has kept us in the loop [...] His research ability, writing, and communications instincts will pay dividends.

William is an excellent project manager, and efficiently keeps everyone up-to-date and on target with delivery dates."

Assistant Director, Communications

December 2020

"You are doing an excellent job with all of the assignments in your portfolio."

U.S. Department of State Public Affairs Specialist March 2021

"Thanks so much, William. This is EXCELLENT!"

U.S. Department of State Communications Officer

August 2024

"William, you are doing a fantastic job!

Thank you for all the extra effort you put into these projects we ask you to take on."

Senior Director Outreach & Communications

August 2020

Testimonials

MESSAGES



10W

let's get to work!





