



American
Alliance of
Museums

2024 AAM ANNUAL MEETING

BALTIMORE, MD

HEALTHY MUSEUMS, THRIVING CAREERS

Mastering Project Management Essentials

What's your experience
with project
management?





INTRODUCTIONS

KALIE SACCO

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Director of Member Strategy
Association of Science and Technology
Centers (ASTC)



- Strategy development, events, cross-functional collaborations
- Enhancing organizational culture
- Promoting accountability



LIZ MCDERMOTT

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Head, Digital Media & Content Strategy
Getty Research Institute



- Team leader and facilitator
- Narrative storytelling and strategic engagement
- Change management



JOHN SHAW

john@museumexp.com



Principal
Museum EXP



- Exhibition development
- Event management
- Internal projects (web/marketing)
- Product development (merch!)



BARBARA PUNT

barbara@puntconsulting.com



President
Punt Consulting Group



- Project Management
- Owner's Representation
- Selection processes (RFP/RFQ)
- Contract negotiation and management



DEAN BRIERE

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www.linkedin.com/in/dean-briere



SVP, Strategic Projects
Arizona Science Center



- Project Management
- Exhibition Development
- Systems Enhancement
- Strategic Planning



UMA NAIR

uma@umanairconsulting.com



Founder
The Strategic Museum



- Workload & Project Management
- Strategy Implementation
- Technology and Process Optimization
- PM Training for Arts & Culture Professionals



slido



What's your experience with project management (select all that apply)

① Click **Present with Slido** or install our [Chrome extension](#) to activate this poll while presenting.

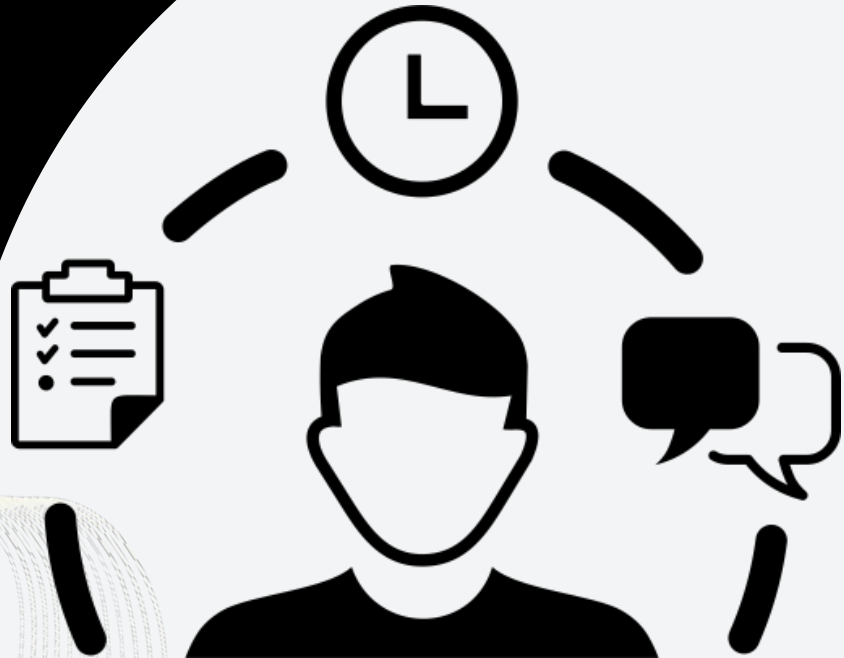


WHY DOES PROJECT MANAGEMENT MATTER?

It helps ensure that projects reach the necessary quality by balancing budget, time constraints and scope.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Getting other people
to **WANT** to do what
you **NEED** them to do



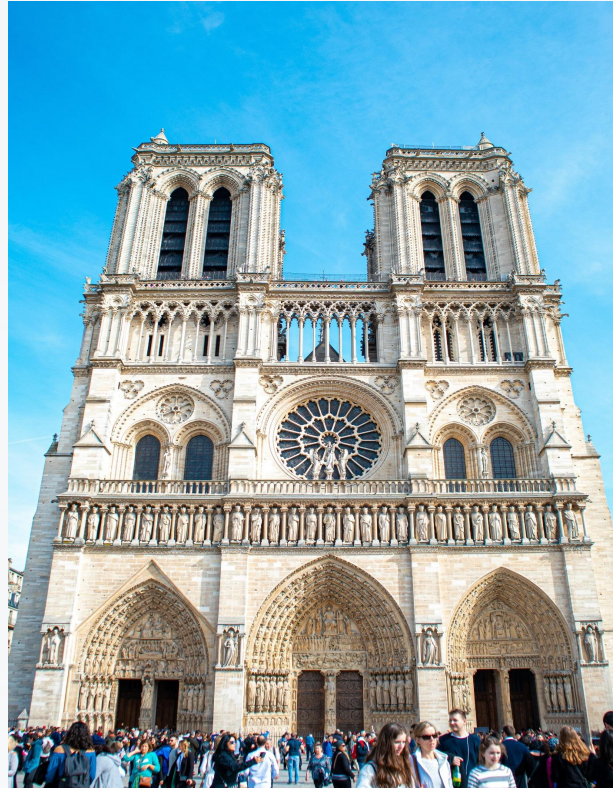
BEFORE “PROJECT MANAGEMENT” EXISTED...



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BEFORE “PROJECT MANAGEMENT” EXISTED...



When did formal project management start?

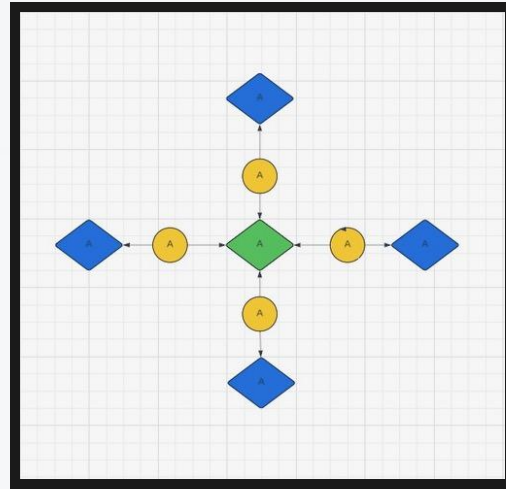


MATRIX MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

Green: Project manager

Yellow: Team members

Blue: Department heads



OVERVIEW TERMS & TOOLS

IN THE MUSEUM CONTEXT

ROLES

PROCESS

SCOPE

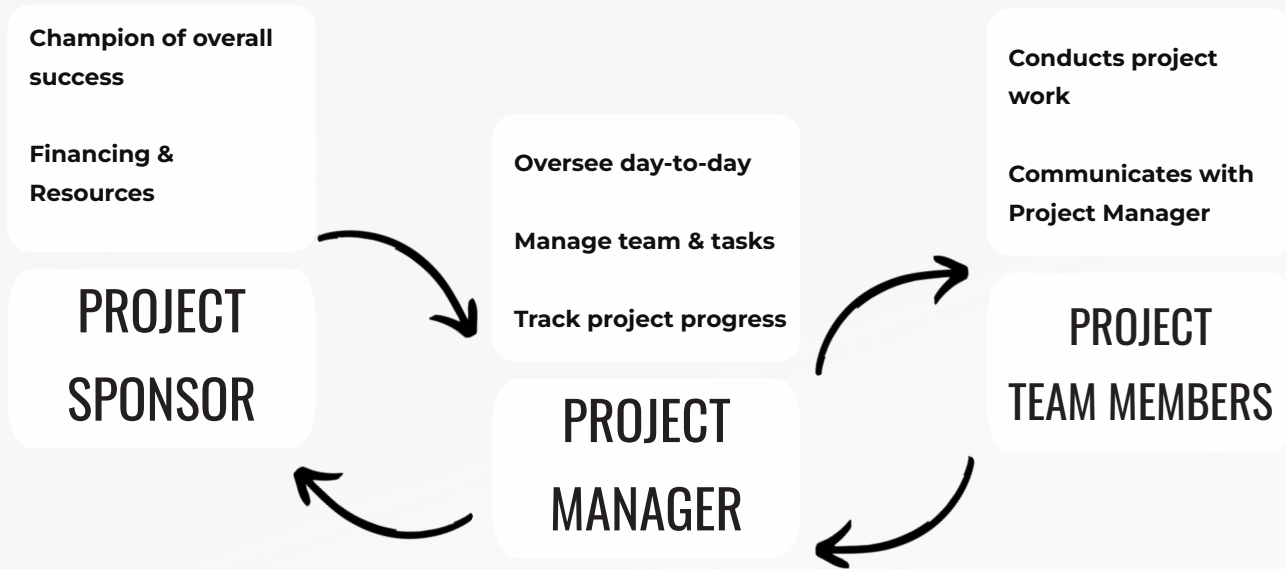
TIMELINE

TOOLS



ROLES

Project Manager versus Project Sponsor



ROLES

Stakeholder: Anyone with an interest in your project's outcome.

VISITORS

STAFF

ADVISORS

COMMUNITY

FUNDERS

MEMBERS

EDUCATORS

MARKETING

EXHIBIT TECHS

ROLES

Project Management Office

Group or department that sets project management process and standards within the organization.
Coordinates and prioritizes across projects.

PROCESS

Project Charter

- Lays out purpose and broad roles
- Internally “market” and get buy-in
- Act as a touchstone
 - Prevent scope and stakeholder creep
 - Stick to broad schedule

PROCESS

Stakeholder Analysis

Goal

- Understand their perspective
- Secure support throughout project

Understanding their perspective

- What is important to them?
- How could they contribute?
- How could they pose challenges?

Methodology

- Interviews
- Brainstorming

Next Steps

- Analyze data
- Engagement and communication strategy

PROCESS

RACI

What is a RACI?

Responsible: Executes the task

Approver: Signs off at key milestone points; the final approving authority

Consulted: Provides input and feedback; two-way communication

Informed: Kept updated on status or progress, often only on completion of deliverable/at milestones; one-way communication

PROCESS

RACI

What are the benefits?

1. Shared understanding
2. Clarity of roles and requirements
3. Empower staff and Subject Matter Experts
4. Enable leadership to own their role and expertise in your organization.

PROCESS

Responsibilities – RACI Matrix

Tool that identifies roles and responsibilities against phases/deliverables within a project

Project: Baking a cake for Liz's birthday party

Deliverable/Phase	Jackie	Liz	Megan	Khristaan	Mary/Andrew
<i>Selecting cake recipe</i>	Responsible	Approver	Consulted	Informed	Informed
<i>Baking cake</i>	A/R	I	R	I	I
<i>Sending invites</i>	R	A	C	C	I

PROCESS

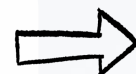
Budget

- Setting the budget
 - History
 - Experts
 - Funding
- Budget tracking & reconciliation

BUDGET

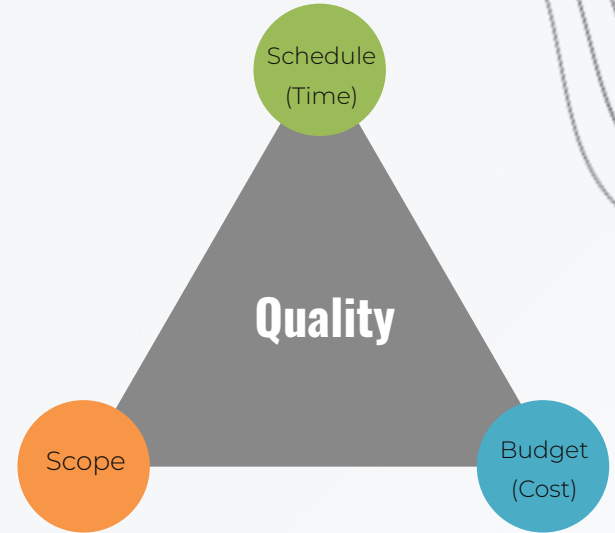


**\$ SPENT &
COMMITTED**



PROJECTED

SCOPE



SCOPE CREEP



SCOPE VALUE ENGINEERING



“GOLDILOCKS”

“Value Engineering” to get back on budget

- Not engineering in the usual sense
- Refers to “systemized and organized approach to providing the necessary functions at the lowest cost”
- Best use of funds to accomplish your goal
- **Can help balance the “triangle” to bring scope, schedule, and budget into balance**

TIMELINE

Schedule

The PM's GPS for Project Navigation

A schedule should have

1. Tasks
2. People assigned to each task
3. Milestones
4. Deliverables at each milestone
5. Duration for each task

TIMELINE

Making an Effective Project Schedule

Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) Simplified

- Assign deliverables to each task
- Sequence the tasks & deliverables
- Identify dependencies and concurrent tasks
- Identify milestones
- Assign people to tasks based on skill sets
- Estimate duration for each task
- **Work Does Not Equal Duration**

TIMELINE

Gantt Charts

Graphic representation of a project timeline

- Advantages:
 - Actively monitors progress
 - Shows linkages
 - Provides accountability



TOOLS

Project Management Software

Many free or affordable options!

- Asana
 - Highly collaborative
 - Ideal for small to mid-size teams
- Trello
 - Good for visual learners and product development
- Monday
 - Great for larger teams

The screenshot displays the Asana interface for a project titled "Member Engagement Strategie...". The main view is a list of tasks under the "Data Systems" section. The tasks are:

Task name	Date range	Duration
Develop roadmap outline and	May 10	
Define goal(s) (better data co	Today	
Review example roadmaps	Today	1 day
Review example roadmaps	Today	
Review roadmap outline	Today	
Review roadmap outline	Today	
Develop stakeholder input pla	Jun 21	
Develop system review plan (Jun 21	
Develop implementation proc	Jun 21	
Deliver three-year roadmap w	Jun 28	

On the right side, a task detail panel is visible for "Develop implementati...". It shows the assignee as "Kalie Sac...", the due date as "Jun 21", and a description including "TBD" and "Goal to have new system imple...". There are also buttons for "Add subtask" and "Share comment with 2 collab...".

HOW DO YOU LEARN PROJECT MANAGEMENT?

SELF TAUGHT

ON THE JOB

FORMAL TRAINING



TWO ASPECTS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

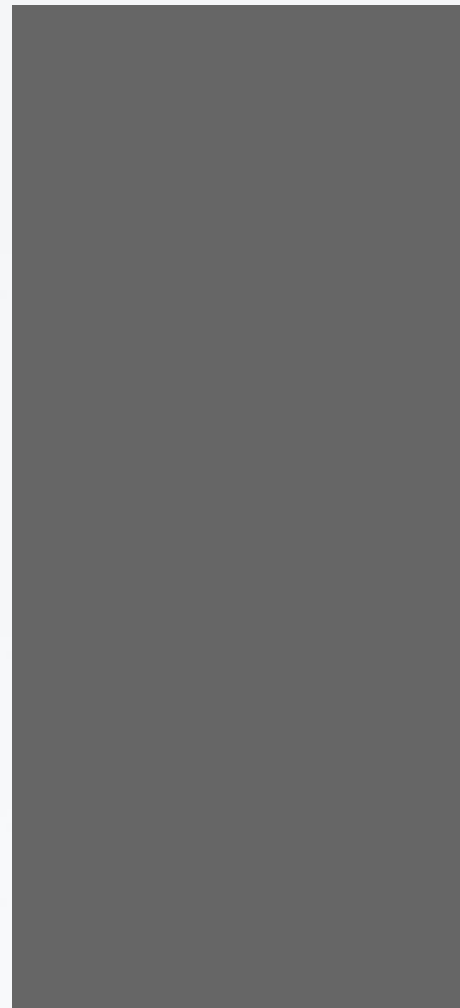
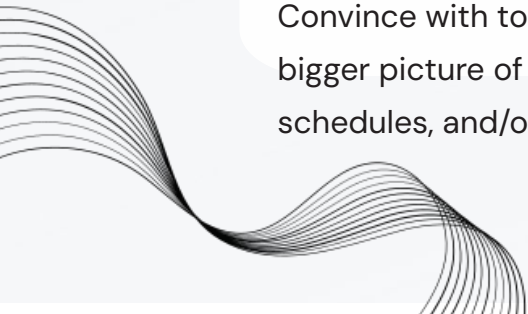
Subjective

How do you get people to **WANT** to do what you **NEED** them to do? (other than begging or plying with food?)

Figure out what *motivates* them!

Objective

Convince with tools, putting their work in the context of the bigger picture of the whole project (using budgets, schedules, and/or contracts)



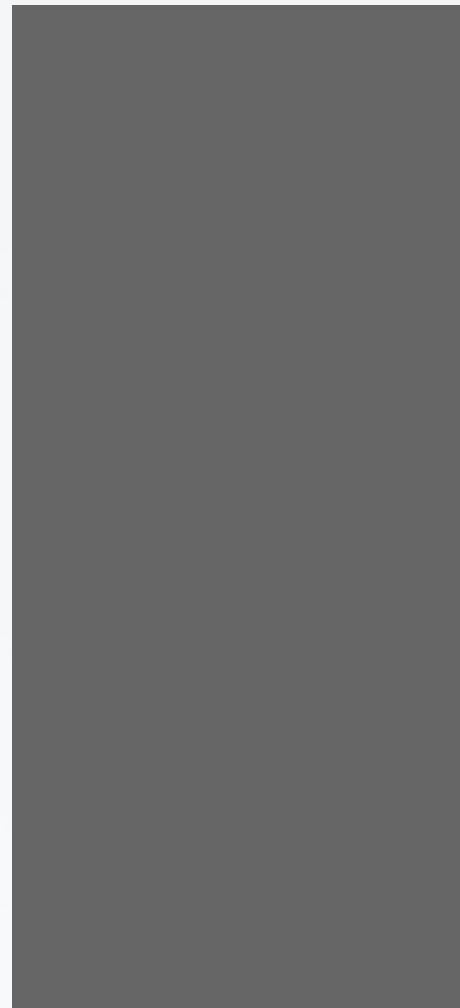
TWO ASPECTS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Improve your **subjective** techniques

- Observe others good at managing people and projects. Pay attention to how they work the room in meetings.
- Read up on negotiation skills, team management, art of persuasion

Improve your **objective** tools

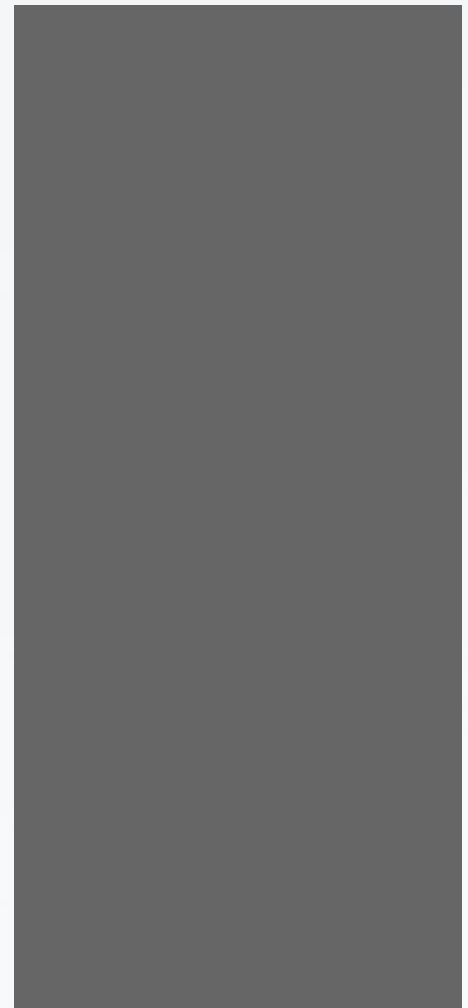
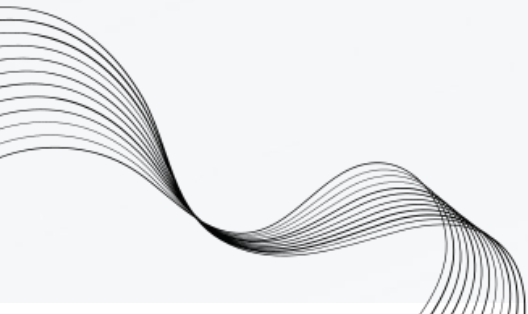
- Consider taking courses
- Master the basic trinity of tools: budgets, schedules and contracts



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

FORMAL TRAINING

- Courses
 - Higher Ed (check out extension programs)
 - MOOCs
- Project Management Book of Knowledge (PMBOK)
- PMP certification



BENEFITS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Enhances teamwork:

- Ability to work on separate parts of a larger whole



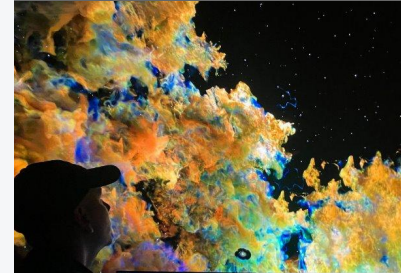
BENEFITS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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Improves communication:

- One person tasked with ensuring information gets to right people



BENEFITS OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT

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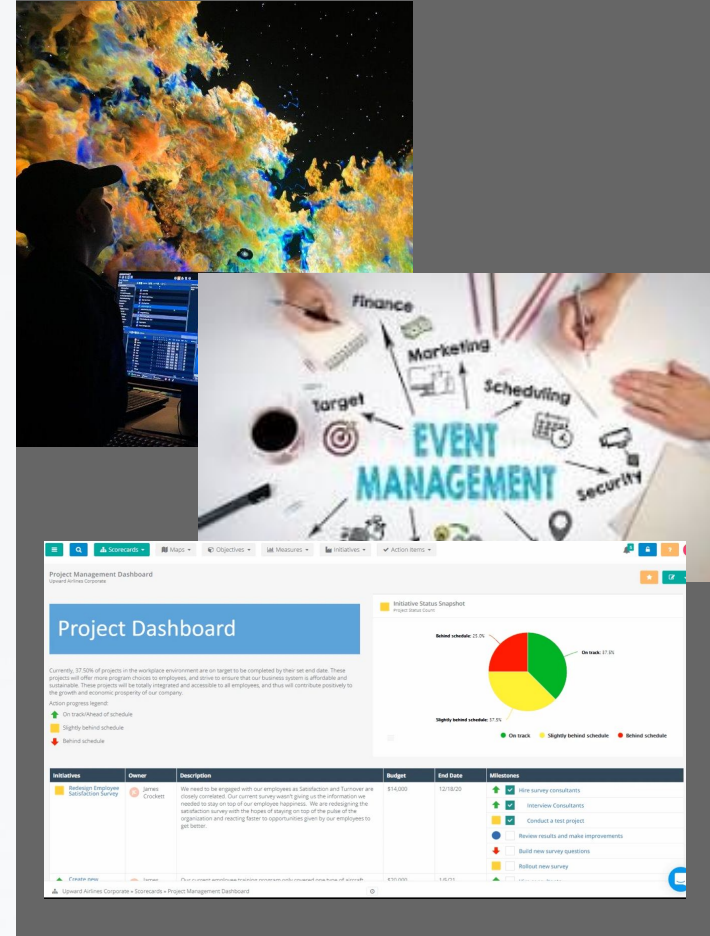
Improves communication:

- One person tasked with ensuring information gets to right people

Improves accountability

- One person responsible for tracking process

Images courtesy of Dreamstime and Clearpoint Strategy



APPLYING PROJECT MANAGEMENT TO YOUR ORGANIZATION

- Internal vs. external consultant (and how do you decide which one to use)
- Setting organizational understanding and shared goals around project management



Images courtesy of Project Management Happy Hour and PMO Squad





CASE STUDIES

- ★ Six case studies in 12 minutes!
- ★ Afterwards, pick a **type** of case study to discuss with your colleagues and one of the presenters at a round table
- ★ All questions and comments welcome

CASE STUDY 1:

Using Project Management for Strategy

The Challenge



- A complex, multi-missioned organization that had never had a strategic plan
- Needed a way to encourage cross-functional work and address big challenges
- Didn't have a PMO or dedicated project manager

- PM strategies to bring order to the chaos
- Stakeholder mapping
- Community-driven mindset
- Transparency in the process

The Solution



CASE STUDY 2:

Exhibit Design and Fabrication

The Challenge

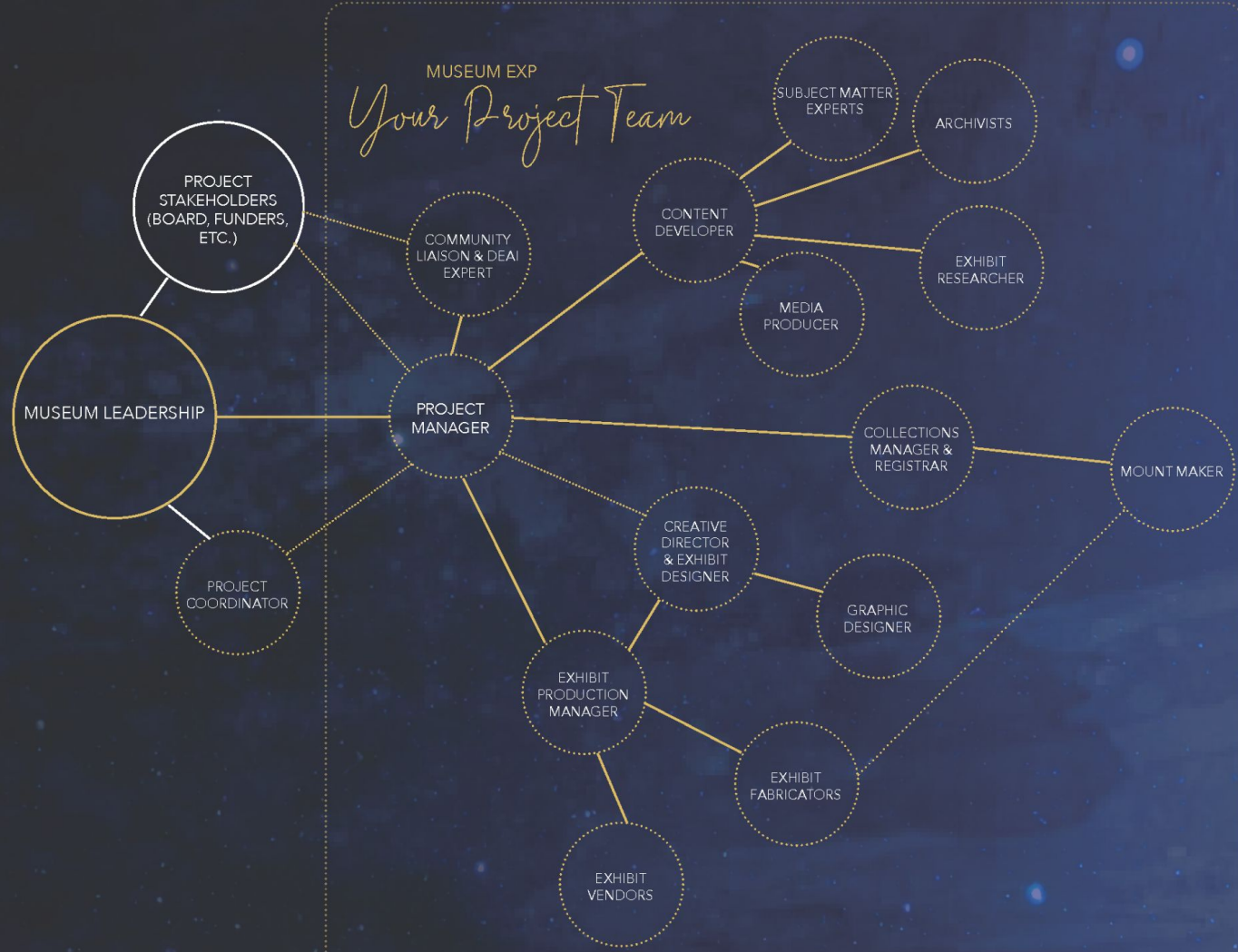


- Create an interactive and informative exhibition with a limited budget that meets stakeholder and visitor expectations.
- Limited internal resources

- Budget planning and management
- Schedule management
- Convening a project team and stakeholders
- Creating contracts that avoid scope gap

The Solution





CASE STUDY 3:

Project Management Mindset within an Organization

Dean Briere, Arizona Science Center

The Challenge



1. A new strategic plan with a large number of projects over the next 5 years
2. A green staff with more than 75% being at the organization less than one year
3. A senior team stretched with new initiatives with a focus on deliverables and process rather than outcomes and results
4. No formal project management structure within the organization

- Create PMO
- Design and standardize PM processes
- Define and communicate roles
- Define programs and projects
- Resources management
- PM tool

The Solution



Challenges

- A new strategic plan with a large number of projects over the next 5 years
- A green staff with more than 75% being at the organization less than one year
- A senior team stretched with new initiatives with a focus on deliverables and process rather than outcomes and results
- No formal project management structure within the organization

Talented and Capable Team

Skilled coordinators

Worked hard

Great ideas

Passionate

Can-do attitude

Successful in spite of our project management “skills”, not because of them

Self aware - WE CAN DO BETTER!

Current state assessment (April 2023)

PMO History

Arizona Science Center (ASC) does not currently have a Project Management Office, or official Project Managers. All projects are managed via the existing staff who are also running the day-to-day business. This has resulted in 'Ad Hoc Project Management' status.

What is going well (April 2023, PMO Squad Assessment)

- Organization developed a Strategic Plan for the business and added stakeholders to the planning process.
- Organization has a Wall of Work (WoW) tied to their strategic plan.
- Very dedicated staff, committed to doing whatever it takes for the organization to be successful.
- Senior Leadership is advocating for and supporting the need for implementing best practice project management to improve overall efficiency and effectiveness of what the Science Center delivers.

Areas of Opportunity (April 2023, PMO Squad Assessment)

- PMO Organization: No PMO, trained and/or dedicated Project Managers or project management processes. Definitions: What is a Project? – undefined
- PM Processes are not consistent or standardized. Projects are not sufficiently defined and Resources are not efficiently assigned to deliver the work. Duplication of effort across the organization causing lack of efficiency; project roles and responsibilities are not defined/unclear across the organization.
- PM Tools: no source of truth with multiple tools and methods used to manage projects (Google Sheets, Monday.com, etc.)

Findings and Recommendations (PMO Squad July 2023)

Starting Point - Stage Zero - No PMO

	Current State	Finding Details	Recommendation
1	PMO Organization: no PMO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Org does not yet exist (roles or HC)▪ No formal Project Manager's	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Org structure define the appropriate level of PM roles and staffing needed and hire appropriately❑ Project Manager titles should be eliminated outside of the new PMO to avoid org confusion
2	PM Processes & Communications: not consistent or standardized	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No standardized Project Management processes, based on industry standard best practices▪ Projects and not defined▪ Resources are not efficiently assigned to deliver the work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Define and standardize PM processes based on industry standards❑ Define and communicate each ASC role in the project lifecycle (Idea through Delivery)❑ Define Programs & Projects, the Project Delivery Lifecycle and Portfolio Management Model❑ Build & Implement Resource Management, based on business priorities and available capacity.
3	PM Tools: no source of truth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ No single source of truth with multiple tools and methods used to manage projects (Google Sheets, Excel, Monday.com, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ PPM Tool selection and implementation

Moving to Better Project Delivery

THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT JOURNEY



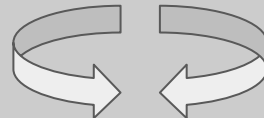
Implementation Roadmap

- Define Your PMO's Purpose
- Design Your PMO's Org Structure
- Define PM Roles & Responsibilities

Build PMO Organization

- Define Projects & Programs
- Build PMO Playbook (Delivery Framework)
- Build Resource Management Playbook

Build PMO Processes



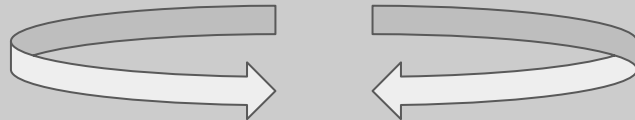
Implementation Roadmap

- Tool Selection
- Tool Implementation
- Build Reporting and Analytics (Portfolio, Programs, and Projects)

PM Tool and Reporting

- Resource Forecasting
- Resource Management (Capacity vs. Demand)

Implement Enterprise PM Processes



Organizational Buy In

Involvement throughout the process

Adapt process to the team

Selection of the appropriate tool

Training

Listening

Evaluating

Showing success

CASE STUDY 4:

Using Project Management to Tackle Workload

The Challenge



Intense workload and staff shortage

1. Ad Hoc Requests
2. Difficulty with External Stakeholders
3. Lack of Diversity & Inclusion in the Work

- Clear Vision and Mission
- Detailed Criteria and Guidelines
- Standardized Process and Governance

The Solution



CASE STUDY 4:

Using Project Management to Tackle Workload

The Process

1. Develop clear vision, mission, and alignment.

Stakeholder Research, Market Research, SWOT Analysis, Capacity Audit

2. Define priorities, criteria, and guidelines.

Market Analysis, Stakeholder Analysis, Development of Criteria, Approval, Documentation, Communication.

3. Develop standardized process and governance plan.

Step-by-Step Work Breakdown, Role Assignment, Scheduling, Documentation, Communication.

4. Implement the new work plan.

Communicate, Listen, Adapt

CASE STUDY 5:

Working with an External vs. Internal Project Manager



Barbara Punt

President

Punt Consulting Group

There's not a one size fits all solution

- *In house staff*
- *External consultant*
- *Hybrid model*

Internal pm: California Science Center

- Large capital project
- Curatorial staff needed to focus on content
- Needed someone with expertise in exhibit design and fabrication in conjunction with new construction, as well as exhibit infrastructure required to support a building over time
- **Beyond the scope and expertise of current staff, so created new position**



External pm: Roseville Utility Exploration Center

- City agency wanted outside expert in pm, specifically with capital projects
- Needed someone with expertise in exhibit design, fabrication, and managing outside designers' work w/ internal staff
- **Beyond the scope and expertise of current staff**



Hybrid model of pm: Connecticut Science Center

- Planned 6 gallery updates over 4 years
- Staff inexperienced at project management
- Hired me to manage initial 3 gallery updates
- **Trained current staff** to manage future capital projects
- **Available on call** for any advice or troubleshooting needed



CASE STUDY 6:

Managing Stakeholder Involvement

Challenge



- Too many cooks in the kitchen
- Risk of conflicting priorities, delays, and communication breakdowns

- Assign clear roles and responsibilities
- Establish communication pathways to streamline decision-making and collaboration

Solution





GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1 PM FOR STRATEGY – KALIE
- 2 EXHIBIT DEVELOPMENT – JOHN
- 3 PM WITHIN AN ORGANIZATION – DEAN
- 4 PM TO TACKLE WORKLOAD – UMA
- 5 EXTERNAL VS. INTERNAL PROJECT MANAGER – BARBARA
- 6 MANAGING STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT – LIZ



WRAP UP

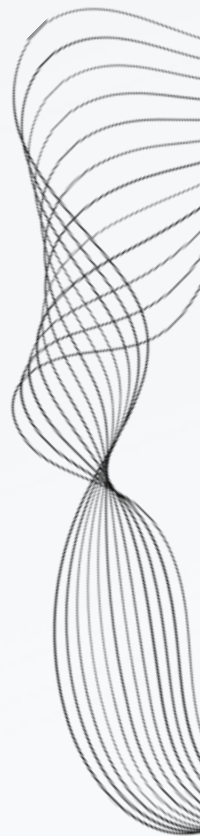
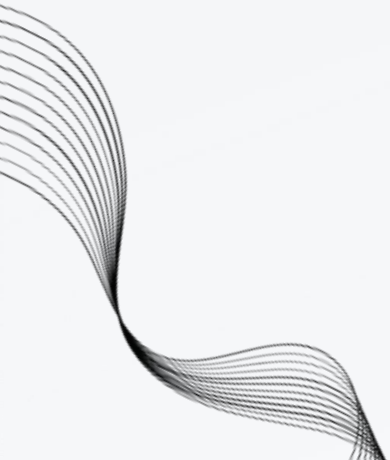
TAKEAWAYS FROM DISCUSSIONS

HAND OUTS – PROJECT MANAGEMENT TOOLS

THANK YOU!

Project Management Templates



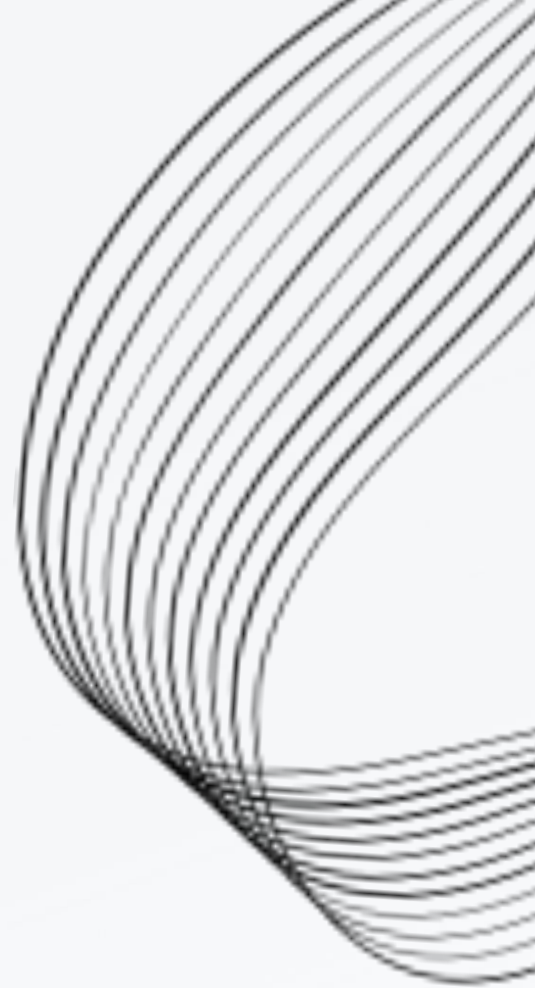


CONTENT

- 01** ABOUT US
- 02** OUR TEAM
- 03** STRATEGY
- 04** OUR SERVICES
- 05** EXPERIENCE
- 06** QUARTER
- 07** NEXT PROJECT

THANKS FOR WATCHING

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NEXT PROJECT

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PROJECT 1

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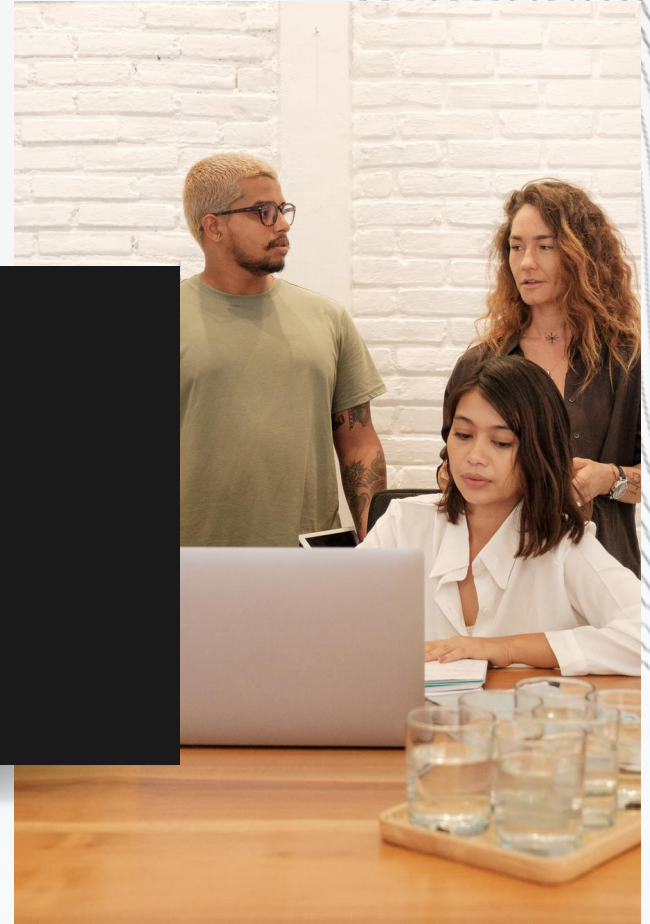
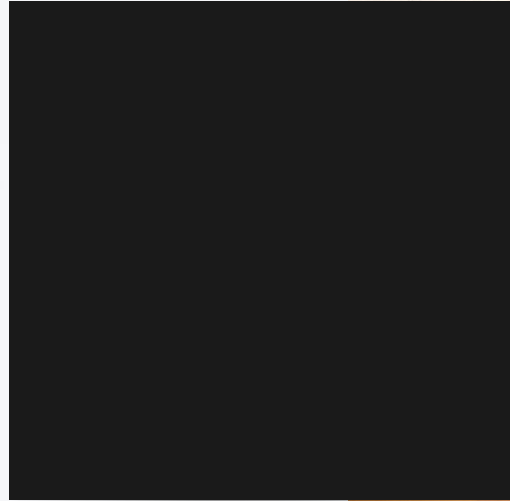
PROJECT 2

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PROJECT 3

CONCEPT IN BUSINESS

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- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Duis vulputate nulla at ante rhoncus, vel efficitur felis condimentum. Proin odio odio.



The image features a minimalist design with decorative wavy lines in the top-left and bottom-right corners. These lines are composed of multiple thin, overlapping curves that create a sense of motion and depth. The central focus is the text 'OUR TEAM' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

OUR TEAM

STATISTICS

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Duis vulputate nulla at ante rhoncus, vel efficitur felis condimentum. Proin odio odio.

80%

