

# Marcel Fable Price

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## Areas of Expertise

Community Outreach, Public Speaking, Stakeholder Engagement, Program Development, Activist, Content Creation, Implementation

## Skills

### Guiding with Emotional Intelligence

Leads teams through challenging tasks by empathetically connecting with the emotions and struggles inherent in the work. Ensures that all team members feel empowered to engage emotionally with their tasks, fostering an environment where employees, volunteers, and board members can operate at their fullest potential.

### Empowerment Advocacy

Work as a trainer, mentor, and leader in inspiring community members to empower themselves through advocacy, entrepreneurship, leadership, and knowledge. Works through several different avenues (art, activism, coaching, and more) to connect his neighbors to opportunities and resources to achieve financial independence, empowerment, and success.

### Generator

Strategically analyzes systems and organizations, with a focus on challenging existing norms. Drives transformative change by educating stakeholders within and beyond the company or system. Reconstructs systems in a more robust manner, ensuring longevity and equity for all affected stakeholders.

## Summary

Marcel is an accomplished professional with 15 years of experience managing value-driven work. A skilled relationship builder, he has successfully implemented impactful social service programs that prioritize empowerment and inclusivity. Marcel is passionate about cultivating equitable systems through the lens of DEI and has a proven track record of launching value-driven initiatives. Known for securing passionate support from team members and stakeholders, Marcel combines strategic thinking with a goal-oriented approach to advance diversity, equity, and inclusion objectives effectively.

## Experience

### The Diatribe Co-Founder and Executive Director (2013 - 2023)

- Utilized restorative art to challenge historical systems of oppression, reimagining education, and fostering community well-being through The Diatribe's unique approach, creating an unapologetic vision for liberation accessible to all.
- Established a multimillion-dollar nonprofit organization, successfully filing articles of incorporation, and spearheaded remarkable revenue growth, elevating organizational income from \$80K in 2018 to nearly \$4M in 2023.
- Raised \$3.5 million through state lobbying for "The Emory Arts and Culture Hub" in the South Division/Grandville Corridor of Grand Rapids.
- Developed a robust board of directors with supportive committees to enhance organizational effectiveness.
- Orchestrated "The 49507 Project," managing a team to install 17 murals in the 49507 zip code, crafted by Black and Brown artists and co-created through extensive listening sessions.
- Secured a \$1M lead capital support pledge from the Wege Foundation, demonstrating effective fundraising leadership.
- Inspired and led a dedicated team of contractors to support programs, operations, and fundraising efforts.
- Facilitated impactful programming, maximizing grant impact, and ensuring equitable compensation for artists and teaching staff.
- Created and disseminated free, downloadable, interactive content for remote education over Zoom, including prompts, presentations, and digital journals.
- Spearheaded adaptive fundraising event management during the challenges of COVID-19 and implemented a cloud-based storage system for streamlined document access, managing donor relations, and strengthening partnerships with community organizations.

### South Division/Grandville Corridor Improvement Authority, Co-Chair (2021 - 2023)

- Appointed to this Grand Rapids City position, contributing to the revitalization and enhancement of the South Division/Grandville Corridor.
- Instrumental in the successful completion of three impactful murals, transforming the visual landscape of the area.
- Spearheaded numerous facade improvements, directly benefiting local business owners and fostering economic development.
- Played a key role in securing \$3.5 million in state revenue, dedicated to advancing crucial development initiatives in one of the city's underinvested areas.
- Contributed to the success of Ole Mole, a neighborhood food festival, enhancing community engagement and promoting local businesses.
- Served on the Burton Heights Business Association alongside this work.

#### Garfield Park Neighborhood Association, Board Member (2019 - 2022)

- Spearheaded the Unification Project in 2020, focusing on supporting residents facing financial challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Engaged with nearly 3,000 neighbors through various channels, establishing direct contact and email connections.
- Facilitated a network to provide essential supplies, gift cards, and funds to those in need.
- Developed a comprehensive framework, including a data mapping initiative, to enhance neighborhood understanding and cohesion.
- Established a database to effectively communicate with stakeholders about neighborhood association events and available resources.
- Implemented a multifaceted approach to each project, ensuring a holistic and inclusive strategy.

#### Fable the Poet; Performing Artist (2010 - present)

- Delivered impactful 1-hour long assemblies and teacher performances.
- Organized logistics for 2-3 month tours, featuring 20-30 shows per tour.
- Managed the booking process and coordinated with hosts for successful performances.
- Developed and executed promotional strategies for shows.
- Created compelling flyers and graphics to enhance show visibility.

#### The Diatribe; Teaching Artist (2010 - 2020)

- Engaged youth through dynamic performance poetry and motivational speaking.
- Organized creative workshops, fostering safe spaces for expression and personal growth.
- Enhancing the culture of poetry in Kent County, spreading awareness for literary arts, and educating our community on the importance of poetry in Grand Rapids.
- After school programs, assemblies, and weekly workshops.
- Coordinated the 6-12 weeks of programming and staffing of those programs for up to eight schools simultaneously.
- Curated weekly reading, writing, and life-skills workshops to build relationships and foster a safe space among youth.
- Collaborated with team members to provide an inclusive environment for healthy expression and vocal release.

#### Grand Rapids Public Library Foundation Poet Laureate (2017 - 2020)

- The youngest, first person without a college degree, and first person of color to hold this title.
- Served as an ambassador for poetry and the literary arts in Grand Rapids.
- Conducted outreach programs and workshops to promote literature appreciation.

### Education and Training

- INELDA: End-of-Life Doula Training
- Experience GR Event Management
- TedX Storytelling Workshop
- Mental Health America: Various workshops
- Lincoln Consolidated High School, Ypsilanti, MI

### Publications

- The Missouri Review 2020 (Playing Just for You - Audio)
- GVSU Lanthorn Cover Story 2019
- Grand Rapids Magazine 2019
- Button Poetry 2018 (Don't Mind Me)
- The Missouri Review 2016 (Picasso Baby - Audio)
- PBS - Mutually Inclusive 2016
- Button Poetry 2016 (Little Timmy)
- A Drift in a Sea of M&Ms 2016 (Chapbook, Autonomous Press)

### Awards

- WMCAT Imagination Award 2023 (West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology)
- Newsmaker of the Year 2022 (Grand Rapids Business Journal)
- Michigan Humanities Impact Partner of the Year 2021 (Mi Humanities)
- The Black Bottom Community Builder Award 2020 (Grand Rapids Area Black Businesses)
- 40 Under 40 - 2017 (Grand Rapids Business Journal)