# Sandra Bodin-Lerner

www.be-compelling.com

#### Sandra@Be-Compelling.com

**Professional Profile:** 

I am a Communication Coach who trains groups and individuals to organize and deliver their messages. My focus is in interpersonal and public communication skills training including listening, speaking, leadership, and presentation technique. I work with private and public sector groups, schools, nonprofit organizations, and individuals.

My background as an educator and instructional designer enables me to develop and teach skill-gaining programs that are interactive, relevant, and engaging. I have been an adjunct professor at Kean University and Montclair State University for over 20 years, teaching courses in Listening, Interpersonal Communication, and Communication as Critical Citizenship. I am the recipient of Kean's Presidential Quality Initiatives Grant to lead a teacher training program at Kean University.

I am on the Board of the International Listening Association (ILA) and run its virtual programs that focus on the advancement, practice, training, and research of listening worldwide. I speak on listening and communication technique and education topics. Recently I presented at the International Listening Association Convention, in Ireland, on methods to engage college students, and was keynote at the Women's Employment Law conference and spoke on communication styles. I am a recipient of the ILA's Outstanding Educator, Presidential, and Special Recognition Awards.

#### **Kean University**

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## Adjunct Professor, Communication Department (Union, NJ, 2000-present)

- Teach interpersonal communication, listening, public speaking, team building, leadership, and conflict resolution skills.
- (Courses: Listening, Interpersonal Communication, Communication as Critical Citizenship)
- Develop experiential lessons to support academic material.
- Design and teach Kean's first Listening course.
- Provide instruction to over 125 ethnically, economically, and academically diverse students annually.
- Awarded Quality First Initiative grant to provide teachers with Be Compelling! in-service training.
- Recognized as influential educator at National Student Athlete awards event by Student Athlete honoree.

## Montclair State University

Adjunct Professor, Communication Department (Montclair, NJ 2015- present)

• Teach Listening course.

#### Be Compelling! LLC

Principal, Communication and Executive Coach (NY & NJ, 2001-present)

- Work with private and nonprofit sector clients to elevate all aspects of their public speaking, listening, I. interpersonal, and leadership skills.
- Enable executives to achieve next levels of professional success by enhancing their communication skills.
- Prepare new, high-level employees to maximize their initial "honeymoon" period on their new jobs.
- Help all-level employees develop confidence & communicate clearly at interpersonal and group meetings.
- Train teachers in presentation and classroom management skills.

## Hudson Valley Children's Museum

## Founding Director, Education & Exhibits (Nyack, NY, 1994-1999)

- Responsible for development and implementation of overall vision, education, and exhibit plan.
- Involved in all aspects of Museum promotion & fundraising including public speaking and relationship development with community, business, and education leaders.
- Developed over 15 interactive educational exhibits and over 50 related educational programs, including award winning Quilting to Read exhibit.
- Responsible for raising over 20% of overall budget including grants, cash, and in-kind donations.
- Awarded prestigious Youth ALIVE! Fellowship Grant by the DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund.

## City of Yonkers

- Museum Consultant (Yonkers, NY, 1/94-6/94)
- Served as community liaison to determine the City's needs within the State Economic Development zone.
- Prepared proposal and was awarded \$64,000 feasibility study grant from the UDC.

## Museum of Television & Radio

- Coordinator, Education (New York, NY, 8/88-8/92)
- Oversaw educational program that provided services to over 20,000 students annually.
- Increased department's productivity by 30%.
- Designed and implemented over 50 classes using television and radio programs as educational tools.
- Coordinated participatory *Re-creating Radio* workshops for children.
- Managed Visiting Scholar program.
- Developed promotional material.
- Supervised 7 employees and 2-15 interns and volunteers.
- Created literacy based Storybook Playhouse exhibition.

## Sampling of Related Consultancy Experience:

- NJ Educators Association Convention (Annually, since 2005)
- Rockland Development Council (Rockland County, NY)
- MediaBistro (NY, NY)
- Far Hills Country Day School (Far Hills, NJ)
- Prevent Child Abuse NJ
- NJ Policy Development Board
- Books for Kids (NY, NY,)
- St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center (Madison, NJ)
- Tribeca Performing Arts Center (NY, NY)

#### In-house Publications:

- Martindale—Avvo (Blog)
- NJEA Review (NJ Educator's Association Magazine)
- Tribec Performing Arts Center Teacher's guide
- Books For Kids Teacher's guide
- St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center Teacher's guide
- Museum of Television & Radio Teacher's guide
- Summit Public Schools Teacher's guide
- Hudson Valley Children's Museum Teacher's guide

#### Education

#### 1988 New York University

MA - Instructional Media & Technology (Instructional Design)

#### 1985 State University of New York at Binghamton

BA - Child Socialization - Academic Honors

- NJ Board of Education Professional Development Provider # 6562
- Fluent in Spanish
- Board Member International Listening Association, VP Membership