

Min. Crystal Saiyge, MTS

EDUCATION

Wesley Theological Seminary, DC
Masters in Theological Studies

May 2017

Cheyney University of Pennsylvania
Bachelor of Arts in Communication Arts (*summa cum laude*)

May 2013

Current Careers

Itinerant Interfaith Minister

Self-Employed

since 2015

Provide guest ministerial services for congregations seeking one-time or recurring services in the absence of their pastor. Congregations often book my services quarterly, which include full-worship planning via phone or email in addition to me leading the worship service. Worship planning happens over the course of several months and includes, but is not limited to, a selection of all music, directions for hiring/soliciting musicians if needed for certain arrangements, setting up the space before service, assigning roles to congregants, etc. My spiritual talks range in topics from mindfulness, vocation, relationship building, justice work-- even original poetry. I do a blend of extemporaneous story-telling and lightly-bulleted transcript that results in a relatable narrative with strong audience engagement. I am an independent contractor but normally work within the congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association or local ethical societies, as that is the organization in which I am pursuing ordination. I currently service the east coast and have remained booked several times a year since I began in 2015.

Executive Director

Lumbricina, LLC

since 2018

A deep passion project, Lumbricina was founded to create solutions to rid our waterways of harmful microplastics. Our mission is to purify our water while also providing underserved youth with opportunities to pursue higher education in microplastics. One part of that mission is to actually carve out new space for scholarship in microplastics. I honestly do everything from web-design and management, to supervising a 3-5 person team of scientists, researchers and an executive assistant-- plus holding weekly conference calls and responding to daily communications. I do all the project management and create all copy for print. I designed and led an in-person 2-day retreat that helped us definitively decide to become non-profit in 2020, so we are rapidly moving toward that end.

Guest Educator

Kelly Educational Services

since 2018

On various days, sometimes 5 days a week when time allows, I serve as a substitute teacher in the School District of Philadelphia. This job entails adjusting quickly to the needs and expectations of a new group of students and administrators every day. More often than not, this also means rapidly using my morning prep time to create an age-appropriate and engaging lesson plan for the class. I have a guest education permit to teach every subject and every grade level.

RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

The Sanctuaries, DC 501(c)3

May 2015- May 2017

Minister/ Community Organizer

Offered professional and ministerial support to a community of artists who are devoted to spirituality and social justice. managing the social media platforms, launching 'arts teams'. Helped supervise/interview over 10 volunteer leaders and interns. Held a monthly "Dinner Huddle" interfaith dinner for the arts (40-50 ppl) that served as the entry point into our community (I even cooked for it several times). Designed and led a program that was featured on CBS titled *Faith, Spirituality & The Future*.

Boys Hope Girls Hope, Inc. of Baltimore, MD

Oct 2013- Feb 2014

Live-In Residential Counselor

Directly cared for at-risk teens in a group home environment, recorded their daily activities in tracking software, drove them to all activities (including school in the morning), operated company vehicles, cooked dinner, administered medication, tutored, mentored, developed life-skills, implemented spirituality, provided discipline and empathetic support, completed large amounts of documentation, handled classified materials and petty cash.

Cheyney University of Pennsylvania: Office of Residence Life & Housing, PA

2012-2013 School Year

Residential Advisor

Encouraged residents to make wise choices, recorded maintenance and housing concerns, conducted programs to promote campus-wide student involvement, and enforced safety procedures in a 400-bed facility. Completed documentation daily/weekly on the condition of the building and the well-being of the residents on my personal wing (40-50 residents).

ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

City of Philadelphia Recreation Department, PA

June 2017- October 2017

Aquatics Assistant

Assisted the Aquatics Coordinator in processing and contacting the entire seasonal staff for the City's Aquatics department (800 employees) for onboarding and drug testing. Supported Recreation Leaders and District Managers with their employee concerns. Processed background check clearances and other highly sensitive information. Assisted the public in any concerns over the phone or in person when they call 311 about Aquatics.

Worksite Monitor

Summer 2012

Supervised 28 teens at seven different sites and resolved workplace disputes between the teens and their site supervisors. Completed documentation on the condition of the sites, recorded personal mileage daily, and oversaw the completion of all payroll documents.

Volunteer After-School Program Director

School Year 2011-2012

Provided homework assistance, crafts, recreational activities, and lunch through the city program for at-risk youth.

Skills & Certifications- Microsoft Suite proficiency, Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Certified, Red Cross CPR/AED Certified, and IMPACT Volleyball Coaching Certified.