www.jlemrise.com

#### **PROFILE**

Adaptable, organized marketing professional who takes initiative and works well under pressure. Expertise includes team development, online & offline marketing planning, e-commerce, event promotion, e-mail marketing, social media, website launches and brand positioning. 20 years of experience in nearly every facet of marketing: hospitality, retail, event planning and sports, with focus on digital marketing. Skilled at creating compelling omnichannel marketing plans, presenting to C-level executives and focusing on results.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

#### DIGITAL HOSPITALITY EXPERIENCE

Drive revenue, leads, and followers for hotel, restaurants, sales groups, weddings and spa. Develop marketing plan to promote annual events, win awards, highlight recent renovations and reach new markets. Led team of three managers to drive online growth for up to 73 hotels in the Midwest market which included executing SEO, PPC, retailing, content enhancement, email and social media. Directly responsible for onboarding new hotels/restaurants and training new General Managers.

- Created cluster campaign to impact winter need periods for downtown Chicago hotels which resulted in a +12% YOY online revenue increase, and drove over \$1 MM in sales
- Deployed SEO tactics to improve organic contribution from 18% to 24% YOY and revenue 8%
- Drove \$366K in revenue for leisure stays from direct marketing and leveraging brand opportunities
- Created new hotel marketing campaign for Hilton Garden Inn Louisville Downtown which contributed to 107 rev par index in month 3 and winning Hilton's "Developer of the Year" award
- Grew email database 29% YOY and improved open rate from 3-7% to 11-20%
- Started social targeted ads and increased page visits 334% for the Wit hotel and 196% for ROOF
- Implemented social media training roadshow across 7 regions, which led to 88% reaching goals
- Launched loyalty membership program for three restaurants and increased membership 30% YOY
- Started company blog, blog.fhginc.com, with emphasis on video, to enhance reputation

Director of Marketing, THEWIT HOTEL CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois	2018 - 2020
Director of Marketing, HILTON OAK BROOK HILLS RESORT Oak Brook, Illinois	2017 - 2018
Director of Marketing, PROJECT 7 DESIGN, Chicago, Illinois	2016 - 2017
Director of Marketing, FIRST HOSPITALITY GROUP, INC., Rosemont, Illinois	2014 - 2016
Director of Marketing, HILTON WORLDWIDE HOTELS, Chicago, Illinois	2012 - 2014

# RETAIL ECOMMERCE

Created annual marketing plan to develop, test and launch online and direct mail marketing strategies to drive business results for the \$185 million repair parts business. Marketing strategies included seasonal campaigns, direct mail, email, paid search strategy, re-marketing/behavioral targeting programs, online banner advertising, social media and call center & retail store integration initiatives.

- Aggressive e-commerce sales plan which led to 19% YOY web growth and 5% overall growth
- Launched Parts+Repair spring campaign and drove \$82 million in revenue, of which \$9 million was incremental. Channels included: stores, call centers, repair techs, TV, radio, web, mail & email
- Rolled out subscription functionality and increased water filter sales 20% YOY
- Launched new functionality to improve website conversion rate 50 bps
- Re-structured paid search account to increase keyword ROI from \$6 to \$10 and revenue by 27%
- Pioneered promo email process by establishing goals, a metrics dashboard and a testing strategy

Online Marketing and Merchandising Manager, SEARS HOLDINGS, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 2007 – 2012 Promotion Planner, CHAMBERLAIN GROUP, Elmhurst, Illinois 2006 – 2007

#### **EVENT PLANNING**

Develop marketing plan to promote 10-27 annual signature public events in the hospitality industry focused on style and sensual immersion. Events include: Holiday brunches, New Year's Eve, Halloween, Lollapalooza weekend, Father's Day, Mother's Day, Easter, Breakfast with Santa, Fireworks Festival, and sports events. Registered and organized logistics for 21 national trade shows and organized two annual conferences in the book publishing industry. Skills include event planning and event promotion.

- Crafted compelling marketing stories about the event experience using descriptive copy, captivating visuals, and a video or animated GIFs to increase conversion rates
- Increased event sales YOY from 30-67% YOY, with NYE ticket sales up 143%
- Launched inaugural Casino Royale event, Superbowl Party and Madonna Tribute Party
- Reduced overall trade show costs by 25% by proactively organizing product and promotional materials orders, eliminating costly overnight material shipments
- Initiated the "Everything You Need to Know" tracking sheet to share trade show details with team
- Achieved Certificate of Achievement from Meeting Professionals International's 2004 Institute

Director of Marketing, THEWIT HOTEL CHICAGO, Chicago, Illinois	2018 - 2020
Director of Marketing, HILTON OAK BROOK HILLS RESORT Oak Brook, Illinois	2017 - 2018
Marketing Event Planner, HEINEMANN-RAINTREE BOOK PUBLISHER, Chicago, Illinois	2003 - 2006

### **SPORTS MARKETING**

Implemented strategic marketing programs to capture new business opportunities. Created unique home game promotions with local radio stations and advertising sponsors. Handled public relations, marketing, event planning and fundraising for a brand-new state-of-the-art stadium.

- Raised \$100K+ from BMW mini raffle, sold out golf tournament and engraved brick campaign
- Developed first annual Menace Kids Club to enhance family-orientated reputation at home games and increase profits. Secured sponsorship with 7up and TGalaxy
- Helped sales department by facilitating corporate sponsorship from local vendor and restaurant
- Tripled merchandise sales goal at "Just For Girls" youth soccer tournament
- Teamed with The Chicago Fire in the organization of an International Exhibition Soccer Tour in numerous states featuring Italy's Juventus Primavera and Mexico's Morelia Monarca's U19 Team

Marketing Manager, DES MOINES MENACE SOCCER, Des Moines, Iowa

Marketing Coordinator, DES MOINES BUCCANEERS RESORT Des Moines, Iowa

2002 – 2003

2001 – 2002

#### **EDUCATION**

Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Marketing Graduated Cum Laude
Sydney University, New South Wales, Australia

### **SKILLS AND EXPERTISE**

**Email Marketing** Strategic Direction eCommerce Marketing Planning Blog Development **Budget Planning** Paid Search Lead Generation Team Member Training Search Engine Optimization **Enhance Team Culture** Digital Ads Social Media Creative Direction Influence Winning Awards **Public Relations** Social Targeted Ads Copywriting Website Launches Photo & Video Direction Direct Mail **Brand Positioning** Event Planning & Promotion **Retail Store Integration** 

## COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Website: CMS, Digital Asset Management, Omniture, Google Analytics
Email Execution: Responsys, Cheetahmail, Constant Contact, MailChimp
Search Engine: Google Adwords/Keyword Planner, SEM Rush, BrightEdge
Creative and Social: Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Canva, Sprout Social

Video Design: Adobe Premiere Pro, still learning After Effects