

Jo Brickman

Principal, Ensō Consulting
jo@enso-consult.com
503.313.4507



Jo is a transformational leader in design and sustainability with over twenty years of experience in private and non-profit sector roles. She is driven by the belief that we are all better when we work as an ecosystem - in connection and interdependence. Especially now, with so little time left to avoid the worst impacts of the climate crisis, she is committed to bringing forward climate solutions that counteract the extractive economic systems at the roots of the climate crisis and racial inequality. Her career reflects success in various roles interfacing with diverse audiences with a broad range of perspectives – identifying synergies and building long-lasting working relationships of trust.

EXPERIENCE

Ensō Consulting, Founder & Principal | *Founded October 2023*

VertueLab | *January 2010 – July 2023*

Ensured VertueLab's organizational excellence in partnership with Executive Director on essential internal firm leadership activities. Led research, visionary thinking, and development of VertueLab strategic plans. Developed and scaled key programs and activities for VertueLab, including regional and national ecosystem convening and leadership, accelerator and the full holistic set of entrepreneurship support programs, DEI efforts, impact measurement and management, and marketing and engagement activities.

Managed relationships with key strategic partners and funders, including Governments (DOE, EDA, SBA, Prosper Portland), Foundations (Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Community Foundation), Corporate Partners (Wells Fargo, BP), and Peer organizations (Elemental Excelsior, New Energy Nexus, Greentown Labs, Project Drawdown). Fundraising through strategic relationship development and grant writing resulting in over \$4.5M in revenues to VertueLab above and beyond core funding from the State of Oregon.

- Sustainable Built Environment Program Manager | 2010 – 2013
- Director of Collaborative Innovation | 2013 – 2018
- Director of Impact Strategy | 2018 – 2019
- Deputy Director, Director of Impact Strategy | 2019 – 2023
- Vice President | 2023 – Present

ZGF Architects, Associate Partner, Director of Sustainable Design | *November 2000 – December 2009*

As an Associate Partner at ZGF Architects, a 500-person, nationally-recognized Architecture, Interiors, and Urban Design firm, Johanna Brickman led the creation and growth of the firm's Sustainable Design Team. By the end of her tenure, ZGF had earned a national ranking at the top of sustainable design firms in *Architecture* magazine.

- Leveraged relationships within leadership to develop a firmwide strategic plan for sustainable design
- Extended ZGF's services to include a full range of sustainability consulting services
- Provided expert consultation to projects globally, including 60+ that pursued LEED and Living Building certification. Services included goal-setting, community engagement, sustainability master planning, feasibility studies, natural resource analysis, technology research, life-cycle costing, LEED documentation, and marketing
- Trained 145+ LEED Accredited Professionals

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Bullseye Glass Company | *Portland, Oregon – 1999-2000*

Research and Education Department, Instructor and Technician

James Hubbell Studios | *Santa Ysabel, California – 1998*

Artisan

Bugtussle Organic Farm | *Gamaliel, Kentucky – 1996-1998*

Owner and Operator

Rockwood Farm | *Celina, Tennessee – 1995-1996*

Farm Manager

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Studies, Scripps College | *Claremont, CA*

University of Arizona, Range Management, Studio Art, Native American history and literature

Equity Facilitation Intensive, Center for Equity & Inclusion

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Awards

- 2014 Living Building Challenge Hero
- BetterBricks Award for Energy Efficient Design Advocacy, 2006
- Portland Business Journal 40 Under 40, 2003

Certifications

- LEED Accredited Professional with Building Design and Construction Specialty

Board Appointments

- Wells Fargo Innovation Incubator (IN2) Advisory Board | 2022 – present
- Prosper Portland Community Budget Committee | 2018 – present, Co-chair from 2018-2021
- International Living Future Institute (and predecessor organization, the Cascadia Green Building Council)
 - Advisory Board | 2021 – present
 - Cascadia Congress | 2014 – 2016
 - Board of Directors | 2006 – 2013 including term as Chair; 3 years on executive committee
- Oregon Tech Renewable Energy Engineering Program Industry Advisory Council | 2015 – present
- USGBC Pacific Regional Council
- Biomimicry Oregon Advisory Group | 2011 – 2016