



Professional Bio

As a graphic design and communications expert, Paris Ashton has managed the Virginia Office of Graphic Communications (OGC) for more than fifteen years overseeing business development while steering the office's creative direction. Established in 1980, OGC is a full-service creative resource that is 100% self-sufficient and bills back for services to state agencies, colleges and universities, local government and non-profit organizations.

Working with the Governor's office, state agency representatives, and private partners, Paris has been the creative lead for numerous projects and statewide initiatives in the Commonwealth. Her work includes the creation of the Virginia Rules Instructor's Kit and website for the Office of the Attorney General, the Governor's Office New Parent Kit and the Virginia Outdoors Plan for the Department of Conservation and Recreation. She worked with the newly formed Office of the Secretary of Technology to support their strategic communications efforts by designing communication materials that included the agency's strategic plan, technology initiatives and conference agenda. Invited by the Department of the Treasury, Paris served as the creative consultant and created design proposals for the Commonwealth's Commemorative Quarter. Her designs were given to the Governor and the U.S. Mint and presented to the public for a vote. More recently, Paris served as a member of the Executive Committee for the Civil Rights Memorial Symposium and Dedication. She provided consultation on communication strategy, event planning and fundraising, as well as helped spearhead the creative aspect and design of the informational and promotional materials.

Previously, Paris was employed by AT&T Technology Systems, W.M. Brown & Son (a high quality color printing company), a religious organization and several small marketing firms before starting her career in public service at the Department of General Services. She also established her own freelance design business and has been an adjunct faculty member at Virginia Commonwealth University's School for the Arts.

Paris graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University's, nationally recognized School for the Arts, with honors, where she also attended the Master of Fine Arts program. Her continuing education includes business management and processes, marketing and public relations, personnel management, state government and procurement policies, as well as graphic design software and processes.

She has been a member of the Virginia Government Communicators and of AIGA, the professional association for design. Her work is recognized by PRSA: Public Relations Society of America, AIGA, PIVA (Printing Industries of Virginia), American Library Association and the IABC (International Association of Business Communicators).