

mandy penksa

2453 n. california ave., bsmt. chicago, il 60647

**RELEVANT TRAINING & EXPERIENCE**

RELISH Chicago Farm Co-Founder	Jan. '21 - Present Chicago, IL
Independent Farm Lead Smooth and Social Roots Finding Justice Farm Chicago Urban Farm Solutions	Aug. '21 - Sept. '23
Herban Produce Outdoor and Greenhouse Farm Lead	Apr. '21 - Aug. '21 Chicago, IL
Windy City Harvest Farm Production Crew Leader (South & West) Farm on Ogden Aquaponics Crew Leader McCormick Place Rooftop Crew Leader Kenneth Street Farm Crew Leader/Grower PCC Wellness Center VeggieRx/Farmstand Lead	Feb. '19 - Nov. '21 Chicago, IL
Farmer's Market Garden Center Vegetable & Herb Lead	May '18 - Feb. '20 Chicago, IL
Tula Yoga Assistant Manager Kids' Yoga Teacher Certification	Jan. '15 - Sept. '15; Feb. '18 - Feb. '19 Chicago, IL
Learning Gardens Laboratory Volunteer Coordinator Lane Family Garden Coordinator Farmer, Farmstand Leader & Group Visit Facilitator Plant Sale Lead	Sept. '15 - Dec. '17 Portland, OR
Landscape Gardener/Designer Clients included: Tula Yoga Studio, Dr. Dilafuz Williams, Amanda Scotese, Valdis Vitayaudom	Sept. '16 - Present
Zenger Farm Garden Education & Event Volunteer Field Trip Leader Permaculture Outdoor Classroom Designer Community Outreach/Cooking Demo Volunteer	Sept. '15 - Dec. '17 Portland, OR
Open Mind Strategy Ethnographic Research Lead & Strategist	Sept. '10 - Jan. '15 Chicago, IL
McCann Erickson VP, Senior Brand Strategist New Business Senior Strategist	Sept. '08 - Aug. '10 NY, NY

**RELEVANT CERTIFICATIONS**

ILFMA Farmers Market Association	April 2024
Chicago Summer Sanitation Course	April 2024
Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training	April 2022
First Aid/Certification	July 2020
ServSafe Certification	June 2020
OSHA Certification	June 2020

**EDUCATION**

Portland State University	Sept. '15 - Dec. '17
M.S. in Educational Leadership and Policy	G.P.A. 3.92
Specialization in Leadership for Sustainability Education	
Institute for Sustainable Solutions Fellowship Recipient	

**Courses Included:**

Permaculture & Whole Systems Design, Urban Farm Education, Ecological & Cultural Foundations of Education, Philosophy of Education, Spiritual Leadership for Sustainable Change, Advanced Leadership for Sustainability, Nonviolence & Gandhi's Educational Philosophy, International Service Learning in India, Regenerative Practices & Deep Ecology in Nicaragua, Developmental Perspectives on Adult Learning, Participatory Urban Planning, Educational Organization & Administration, Principles of Educational Research & Data Analysis

School of the Art Institute of Chicago	Sept. '10 - May '11
Emphasis in Visual Art, Screenwriting and Filmmaking	
Merit Scholarship Recipient	

University of Texas at Austin	Aug. '98 - May '02
Bachelor of Business Administration with Honors	G.P.A. 3.62
Merit Scholarship Recipient	

**RELEVANT INTERESTS**

Plant Chicago Introduction to Oyster Mushroom Cultivation	June '22 - Current Chicago, IL
Floret Farms Flower-Farmer 6-Week Workshop	Jan. '20 - Apr. '21 Chicago, IL
Lane Food Pantry Food Donation Volunteer	May '16 - Dec. 17 Portland, OR
PSU Student Sustainability Center Bee Task Force Volunteer	Feb. '16 - Feb. '17 Portland, OR
Alternative Health Group 200-Hour Yoga Teacher Training	Sept. '11 - Dec. '11 Chicago, IL
Park Slope Food Co-op Shift Supervisor & Member	Sept. '07 - Sept. '08 Brooklyn, NY

**PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES**

Robin Whaley-Smith (Windy City Harvest)	312.498.0806
Deshawn Willingham (Chicago Urban Farm Solutions)	773.219.7621
Angela Taylor (Garfield Park Community Council)	773.851.3162
Daniel Castorena, Jr. (formerly Windy City Harvest)	785.226.2744
Matt Miller (Impact Culinary Group)	269.213.1604