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# Dakin Parker

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Cape Town, 8005, South Africa

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## Objectives

*To create words and visuals that inspire others and change worlds.*

*To be an activist within the creative and corporate arenas.*

*To energize people, develop passion and talent in them, and to build community.*

## Highlights

- Started Dakin + Company, a writing, training and creative company.
- Wrote “Conversations with Elephants”, a memoir of growing up in the old and new South Africas.
- Published in various newspapers and online outlets.
- Co-founder of Kinfundu, an education-saver product for working class families.
- 10¾ years with PwC in 3 countries and 4 different roles, mostly around adult learning and people effectiveness.
- Chartered Accountant (South Africa) with a Master’s degree in Organizational Development and Management (USA), and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Writing (USA).

## Work Experience

**Owner – Dakin + Company.** *Cape Town – May 2017 to present.*

- Started a creative company that performs all services relating to the written word: Copy writing, publication, creative writing, writer support, training and development, script-writing and cheerleading.

**Founder and Principal: DGP Company.** *New York then Cape Town – September 2010 to present.*

- Started a training company that develops, implements and facilitates learning solutions for predominately business and accounting-focused industries.

**Co-founder and Head of all things – Kinfundu.** *Cape Town – August 2013 to April 2017.*

- Launched a new education-saver product in South Africa, taking it from an idea to it being publically available. This included leading the product and legal research, designing the brand and technology, and launching it to the public.

**Co-founder: CapsulePen.** *New York – January 2012 to July 2013.*

- Launched CapsulePen, a patented daily/weekly pill case for all medication and supplements.
- Won Best New Business Idea at the NGLCC National Conference in Chicago, in our founding year.

**Global Program Leader/Instructional Designer: PwC.** *New York – November 2006 to September 2010.*

- Global Program Leader of “Next STEP,” a PwC milestone course offered to 5,000+ global participants annually, working with subject matter experts, leaders and stakeholders to strategically develop and manage curricula.

**National Faculty Manager: PricewaterhouseCoopers.** *San Francisco – May 2004 to October 2006.*

- Designed and facilitated classroom training courses for every staff level at PwC; from new joiners to partners.

**Assurance Senior Associate: PricewaterhouseCoopers.** *San Francisco – October 2003 to April 2004.*

- Planned, performed and completed full-scope external audits on private and public companies, including assigning and coaching staff, reviewing work, resolving issues, preparing financials and managing engagements.

**Assurance Assistant Manager: PricewaterhouseCoopers.** *Cape Town - January 2000 to September 2003.*

- Planned, completed and managed full-scope external audits and special reports on private and public clients while also taking on non-audit engagements like client and internal training and development.

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## **Education & Certifications**

Master of Fine Arts, in Creative Writing (2013) - *Sarah Lawrence College, New York, USA*

- Thesis: 60,000-word non-fiction book called "Conversations with Elephants", currently with literary agents.

Master of Arts, in Organizational Development and Management (2008) - *Fielding Graduate University, California, USA*

- Thesis that covered Quantum Physics and KT (Chaos & Complexity Theory) in the workplace.

Chartered Accountant, South Africa (since 2003) - *South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (#04898012)*

- Passed Part I & II of the CA(SA) Board Exam on first attempt.

Certificate in the Theory of Auditing (2001) - *University of Cape Town, South Africa*

Honours Bachelor of Accounting Sciences (1999) - *University of South Africa*

- Completed the two-year Honours degree in one year.

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting Sciences) (1997) - *University of Pretoria, South Africa*

- Did not fail a subject or year.

Senior Certificate / Matric (1994) - *Pretoria Boys High School*

- Passed matric with seven subjects, two distinctions and an A aggregate.

## **Publications**

- Monthly column in "The Pink Tongue" newspaper, called The New York Investigator, 2006 onwards.
- Weekly column in "The Lichtenburger" newspaper, called The Observer, 1998 onwards.
- Published on [www.likastarr.com](http://www.likastarr.com) for the Equality March in Washington, 2009.

## **Notable involvement and achievements**

- Kay Mason Foundation – Treasurer; working with Board and CEO to improve NGO (2014 to present, RSA).
- Training Magazine's Top Training Organizations – Three-times winner, PwC (2008/9/10, USA).
- PwC USA Chairman Award – Winner; for learning & development excellence (2007) and ex-pat forum (2004).
- On-screen appearances in various web series, including Conversations with my Ex (2013).
- Hope for New York – Volunteer; cooked and served meals to families with sick kids (2012).
- Art of Elysium – Volunteer; created and led self-esteem workshops for terminally-ill kids (2010/11).
- 362 Eastern Parkway Condominium Association – Board Treasurer; of condominium building (2009/10).
- Pride Toastmasters – Founding board member; New York chapter (2008/09/10).
- AIDS/LifeCycle – Rider; twice completed the 545-mile bike ride from San Francisco to LA, which raised \$11M and \$13M in the respective years (2007, 12).
- New York City Marathon – Runner; as part of MSKCC's Fred's Team, raising \$4.8M for cancer research (2011).
- Learning Leaders – Mentor; reading programme with New York City schools (2006 to 2008).
- PwC's Most Outstanding Client Service & Most Productive Staff – Winner; awarded in Cape Town (2001/02).

## **Computer skills**

- Lotus Notes, MicroSoft Office (Excel, Word, Outlook & PowerPoint) and Mobile devices – Proficient.
- QuickBooks Online, Xero, MoneyWorks, SageOne accounting software – Moderate.
- Web design and social networking applications - Moderate to proficient.
- Abode, Acrobat, Centra/Saba, Articulate, WebEx, On24, Lectora and Captivate – Moderate.
- Virtual meeting tools, LiveMeeting, SameTime, IM and Internet Explorer – Proficient.

## **Hobbies and Other Pursuits**

- Travel, nature, foreign experiences, theatre, literature, fine-dining (actually, eating in general), yoga and cycling.
- Taking every opportunity to explore creative ventures, including workshopping musicals and plays.
- Helping others through volunteer work and fundraising.
- Switching on the light in others, through various informal mentor arrangements.
- Being a voice of social justice in the community (and sometimes unpopularly amongst my friends).