

Miguel Castro Jr.
mcastrojr1983@gmail.com
23121 Blue Heron Rd.
Grass Valley, CA 95949-8136
(530)613-2507

Education and Vocational Training

Finca las Nubes,

San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua

Commercial Aquaponics with Applied Permaculture 10 day intensive course at Finca las Nubes or "Farm in the Clouds". Innovated the tool used to make holes in rafts by modifying the saw blade. Illustrated the schematic used to lead a project constructing a Fly Larvae Hatchery. Was invited back to run the aquaponics system. December 2010

Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design

Milwaukee, WI

B.F.A. with honors in Industrial Design. Mentored by David Martin, Provost of MIAD. One of two students that drafted and signed a proposal to reform the intellectual property policy in regards to being required to forfeit all creative IP developed during sponsored projects in return for cash prizes. Initiated MIAD's adoption of the Designers Accord. Completed two book reviews as open source paraphrased editions to enable rapid learning of core ideas. May 2010.

Milwaukee Area Technical College

Milwaukee, WI

Technical diploma with honors in Electrical Power Distribution. Performed as crew leader during installation of overhead three-phase primary distribution circuit. Able to climb a 40 foot utility pole in 7 seconds. Set the course record for a drill to rescue an injured worker from overhead wires 30 feet high. May 2004.

Marine Corps Recruit Depot

San Diego, CA

Graduated USMC boot camp and advanced training. Meritoriously promoted for my role as squad leader. Finished three-mile run 35 seconds ahead of my drill instructor that I challenged. Fastest 3-mile run in the Battalion at 17:00 minutes. Top 4% on knowledge test. Scored 83 on Armed Services Aptitude Battery. June 2002.

Employment, Deployment, and Experience

Social Entrepreneur

Grass Valley, CA

Individually completed demo, deep clean, and renovation of a horse stable housing 15 years of storage in 3 months at Grass Valley Organics in trade for managing and developing meaningful projects. Recruited assistance when needed for larger aspects of the job. Building to facilitate planned vermiculture and aquaponics systems. Synergizing current projects with the evolving function and purpose of the property by communicating with all stakeholders. Developing a comprehensive plan to activate the machine shop, wood shop, welding area, and classroom space. December 2011-present.

Henderson Springs

Big Bend, CA

Operated a Komatsu HM400 Articulated Dump Truck during a lake dredging project to add depth to a lake to increase dissolved oxygen and provide better drought protection. Safely operated at 40- 50 loads per day. Safely maneuvered material on mountainous back roads. Fall 2011.

United States Marine Corps, Infantry

North Babil Province, Iraq

USMC reserve unit Fox Co. 2/24 activated 2 weeks after technical diploma from MATC. Highest Physical Fitness Test results in the company during mobilization with a perfect 300. Humvee driver for Executive Officer. Radio Operator in Command Post. Member of the breach team on night ops. Squad provided security on the rooftop of the polls during the first elections. Worked in temperatures over 100 degrees with only 2 Utility uniforms without access to showers for 55 days and only hot bottled water to drink. Our company established a new forward operating base in a combat zone where previous active duty units have been unsuccessful. Earned my Combat Action Ribbon.

Notable Achievements

Presentation: Invited to speak to an Effective Communication, Management, and Action class at Presidio Graduate School of Sustainable Management about how the work I am involved with provides a living example of the principles described in a Harvard Business Review publishing titled, "Creating Shared Value: How to reinvent capitalism and unleash a wave of growth and innovation." November 2011

Unconference: Annual attendee of the Greenermind Summit in the Mendocino Woodlands. This informal conference location enables practicing sustainability professionals from all disciplines and market sectors to collaborate in an environment that emphasizes individual contribution and open collaboration while fostering meaningful conversations over a 4 day camping trip with no outside communication. This platform provides opportunities to network and promote projects that can change the world. June 2010, 2011, and scheduled for June 2012.

Collaboration: Co-authored, along with over 100 progressive individuals from academic and professional institutions all over the world, the "Integrating Sustainability into Design Education: The Toolkit" while representing MIAD at the Global Summit on Design Education & Sustainability held at the Autodesk gallery in San Francisco. October 2009.

Boldness and entrepreneurship: Discovered that I could not be physically, spiritually, and mentally happy while innovating meaningless consumer products while finishing my B.F.A. in Industrial Design. I had to center myself after 4 years in the military institution and 4 years in an institution of higher education. I moved to a isolated town of 150 people Northern California to work, immerse myself in nature, work with a community where I could see the results of my work. I moved with all of my belongings and a 50cc scooter. I enjoyed becoming a member of a unique and caring community while finding my higher purpose. I had a job within 2 days and volunteered my time building stone steps as work trade to enable my attendance at an appropriate technology and developing intentional communities classes at a permaculture course that was being held the week I arrived in town. That is when I committed to attending the aquaponics course in Nicaragua; which is where I met my current project partners. June 2010-November 2011.

Practical Skills: Leadership, prototyping, ergonomics, communication, product development, radical innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration, systems thinking, design thinking, critical thinking, concept ideation and visualization, sketching, form design, research and development, project management, chaordic objectivism, tact, conflict resolution, networking, meme propagation, enthusiasm, endurance, visual-spatial learning, soul driven ambitions, integrity, and courage.

Travel: Mexico to visit family in 1993 and 1996. Denmark for international training ops with the USMC in Summer 2003. "Triangle of Death" North Babil Province, Iraq from September 2004-April 2005. One month studying abroad for Art History in Florence, Italy. San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua for aquaponics training.

Activities and Interest: Personal growth and reformation, experiential learning, community development, the Renaissance, deterministic future, functional art, billiards, poetry, ruminating.

Attachments:

- 1) Artwork and Design
- 2) 2 Open Source Literature samples
- 3) Personal Writings