

Lisa Orkisz Scardina

Writer. Artist. Connector.

Lisa Scardina is a storyteller – synthesizing varied perspectives and heartfelt details into succinct narratives. She is inspired by the human connection in her daily work in healthcare. Her vignettes about her childhood, motherhood, and family history are a connection to universal experiences and emotions – told in such a way to let us know that it will all be OK. She and her husband run a small apricot orchard along the Columbia River in Oregon.

CREATIVE WORK

Inspired by Polish heritage, Detroit roots, family dynamic, immigration stories, natural environment

- Thoughtful wordsmith documenting experiences with depth and emotion
- Craftswoman with passion for sewing and making pajanki, a lost art of rural Poland, which are “chandeliers” made of straw and paper and evoke well-wishes

ADVOCACY WORK

Variety of roles advocating and organizing for collective impact

- Medicine Forward, national physician advocacy organization, board member, 2022-current
- Girls Gearing Up International Leadership Academy, Mentor, 2023
- Strategic support for Congregation of Holy Cross and St. Vincent de Paul heritage projects
- Strategic planning support for numerous Catholic parishes and organizations, ongoing
- Mission Trip to El Salvador, 2009

CERTIFICATIONS

Lifelong learner in the area of complexity science, facilitation, and servant leadership

- Relational Leadership Certification, Oregon Health Sciences University, 2024
- Appreciative Inquiry Certificate in Positive Business and Society Change
Case Western Reserve University, Weatherhead School of Management, Sept 2018

PROFESSIONAL WORK

- Since 2003, served in a variety of roles within the Providence health system, a seven-state Catholic system based in Seattle, Washington
 - Key accountabilities: Physician and provider recruitment, strategic planning, change management, communications, marketing, administration
 - Served as lead for \$17M federal grant to provide complex care management services for highly vulnerable populations
- From 1995-2000, led communications and public relations for the University of Portland, a Catholic university run by the Congregation of Holy Cross

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of Arts in English, Minor in Communications
DePaul University, Chicago, IL, 1991
- Graduate, Institute on Political Journalism
Georgetown University, Washington D.C., 1988