

Sam Aquillano



Sam Aquillano is a Co-Founder and Director of Design Museum Boston. With a passion for design, creativity, and learning, Sam creates a long term vision for the museum. He leads a dedicated team while managing key programs and day-to-day operations. Sam is also a practicing freelance designer and project manager as well as an adjunct professor at Wentworth Institute of Technology, where he brings his design experience to the next generation of designers. Sam is also an MBA candidate at Babson College and a Connector for Boston World Partnerships.

source: designmuseumboston.org/about/who-we-are/

Year of Graduation

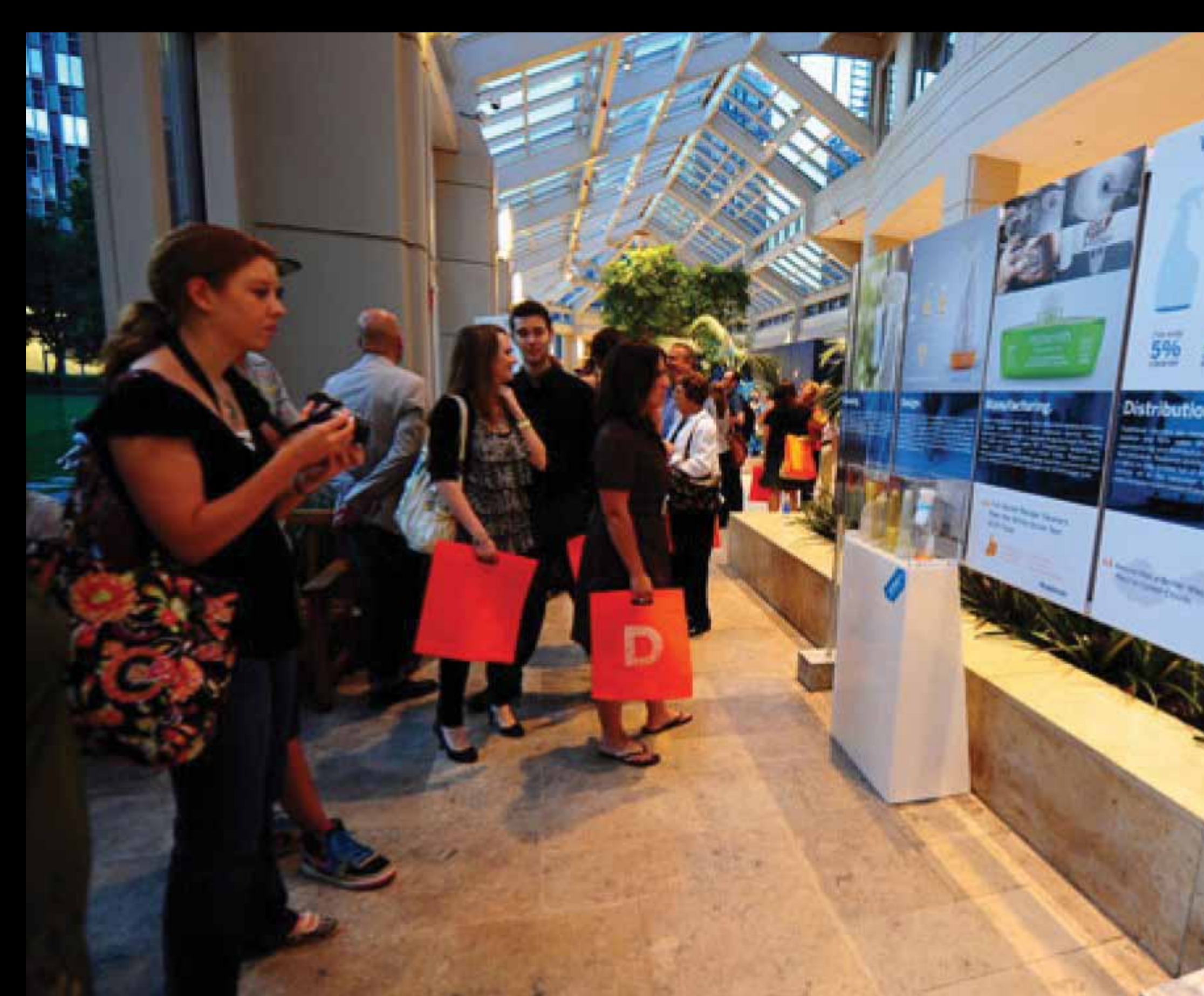
2004

Current Position

Co-Founder/Director Design Museum Boston

Design Museum Boston

“I started Design Museum Boston for a lot of reasons, one of the main reasons being a simple one: design is so ubiquitous – when you look around, you see a world full of buildings, graphics, products and experiences that were all originally visualized by designers – but not many people know the who, what, how, and why of design. My own parents are just starting to understand what I do and why I do it. At Design Museum Boston we want to demystify design and show people that we’re all designers, we all plan in some way – we can teach people tools like empathy, visualization, and prototyping to make them better planners. We can show best practices and case studies that are exciting, entertaining, and that prove good design can make the world a better place.”



Background

Design Museum Boston is a startup, nonprofit design museum for Boston and New England. We are the region’s first museum dedicated solely to design. Our mission is to educate the world on the role of design in our lives and to unite the Massachusetts design community in ways that enrich our collective work, make businesses more competitive, and solve real-world problems more creatively. After all, design has the power to make our everyday lives more comfortable, more efficient, more exciting, more rewarding, more... better.

We are inspired by revolutionary design: the fruitful result of thoughtful problem solving and a willingness to break with tradition. This is why our museum has no permanent address. Design Museum Boston is a decentralized network of physical and virtual exhibits. Whether in a gallery, retail environment, public spaces or on the web, our programming gives audiences new insights into the design process and the greater social, economic, and environmental contexts that both affect and are affected by design.

Year Founded

August 2009

Awards/Achievements

Design Means Business exhibition opens at Reebok Headquarters, Canton, MA, 2010

Creative Capital: Designed in Boston exhibition opens at Boston City Hall, 2010

AIGA Best of New England Award Best Brand Identity, 2011

Retail: Retell. Recycle. Rethink. exhibition opens at Prudential Center Mall, Boston, 2011

National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant, 2011

AdClub NONAwards Best Nonprofit Brand Identity, 2012

Getting There: Design for Travel in the Modern Age exhibition opens at Grand Circle Gallery, Boston, 2012

Semi-Finalist MassChallenge Startup Competition (still competing), 2012



Visitors learn at Retail: Retell. Recycle. Rethink at Prudential Mall in Boston.



Attendees wake up early for CreativeMornings, a monthly lecture series.