# Alisha Mahen

**Social Designer** + **Instructional Designer** / / Designing with people to make a difference in their lives.

## / Education

**MFA Design for Social Innovation** / School of Visual Arts / *STEM Certified* / GPA: 3.89

SEP 2018 - MAY 2020 / / NEW YORK CITY, NY

BA Economics (Honors) / Lady Shri Ram College for Women / University of Delhi JUN 2009 - MAY 2012 / / NEW DELHI, INDIA

Managerial Accounting and Financial Control / LSE Summer School JUN 2010 / / LONDON, UK

## / Master's Thesis

Using participatory research methods to create tools and services for female Yemeni immigrants in New York City to plan their own education and careers. Learn More

#### / Skills

Human-Centered Design, Facilitation and Co-Creation, User Research, Curriculum Development, Experience Design, System Mapping and Visualization, Rapid Prototyping, Usability Testing, Storytelling, Synthesis, Ideation.

### / Tools

Articulate, Sketch, Tableau, Procreate, InVision, Keynote, Microsoft Office, Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe InDesign

#### / Facilitation Experience

I facilitate conversations on diversity and inclusiveness, that give people space to reflect on their own actions and ideate on actionable steps.

Learn More

Otherness, 40 people

NOV 2019 / / NEW YORK CITY, NY

**Understanding Our Patients,** 8 people

OCT 2019 / / NEW YORK CITY, NY

*Identity and Choices,* 25 people

APR 2019 / / NEW YORK CITY, NY

*Claystation Community*, 10 people

DEC 2018 / / NEW YORK CITY, NY

## / Professional Experience

## **SEL 4 ALL (O3 Schools)** / Content + Instructional Designer

MAY 2017 - SEP 2018 / / MUMBAI, INDIA

Designed an online platform targeted to provide social emotional learning (SEL) for K-8 students in the US. Conducted secondary and user research to create the SEL curriculum, learning materials, and facilitation guides. Worked on developing the user experience and interface for the platform. Tested the platform with schools in India and the YMCA, Houston to get feedback on

## **3.2.1 Education Foundation /** Teacher + Curriculum Designer

MAY 2014 - APR 2017 / / MUMBAI, INDIA

Taught 400 elementary grade students, mostly from low-income households in an underserved community. Designed an SEL curriculum and learning materials for the school by integrating cognitive learning theories into the design-thinking framework. Facilitated independent reflections successfully for 60% of students on their experiences with the curriculum.

### Teach For India / Teacher + Fellow

JUN 2012 - MAY 2014 / / PUNE, INDIA

Taught 47 students in grades 3-4 in a under-resourced private school. Reimagined classroom experiences by implementing blended learning and constructing technology-integrated learning spaces despite limited infrastructure. Achieved a 70% average student mastery in mathematics and

## / Internship Experience

## Eskolta / Design Intern

SEP 2019 - MAY 2020 / / NEW YORK CITY, NY

Co-designed professional development sessions to empower transfer schools in NYC with design research and PDSA methodology. Designed tools and facilitation guides for participants to use. Visualized feedback from different sessions to improve their effectiveness which led to higher engagement, mastery and participation.

#### hiCOlab / Design Research Intern

JUN 2019 - AUG 2019 / / BURLINGTON, VT

Applied strategies of human-centered design to define and design a system that integrates health and well-being into the workplace and daily experiences of 8500 employees at the University of Vermont Medical Center. Conducted research using ethnographic methods and synthesized the data to prototype potential solutions over two phases. *Learn More*