

# Allen Grabo

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## A/V Professional & Visual Artist

### PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Creative and technically skilled A/V professional with 4+ years of specialized experience in immersive visual environments for high-profile live events. Combines 20+ years of design expertise with a production-oriented mindset to deliver exceptional visual experiences under demanding conditions. Leverages unique background in organizational psychology to excel in client-facing situations, anticipate needs, and prioritize critical challenges to ensure seamless production execution. Demonstrated success with complex productions for Art Basel Miami, Congressional Black Caucus Week, and Baltimore Ravens events, consistently exceeding client expectations through innovative solutions and precise technical execution.

### TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

- **Content Creation & Design:** Custom visual content development using Adobe Creative Suite (20+ years experience), TouchDesigner, and StableDiffusion for live events and installations.
- **Video Programming & Mapping:** LED panel/video wall programming (Novastar/ArtFox), projection mapping (MadMapper), and real-time visual performance (Resolume Arena/MediaMaster).
- **Video Switching & Production:** Operation and troubleshooting of BlackMagic ATEM systems for multi-camera PTE setups and real-time video switching.
- **Control Systems:** Deployment of video processors (Novastar, Artfox) and media servers for synchronized displays, with additional experience in DMX lighting controllers (Chamsys, Daslight).
- **Technical Troubleshooting:** Network configuration and signal flow diagnostics for complex A/V systems.

### PROFESSIONAL STRENGTHS

- **Production Management:** Apply organizational psychology principles to production environments, identifying critical paths and allocating resources efficiently to meet tight deadlines.
- **Client Communication:** Translate technical concepts for non-technical stakeholders, ensuring clear understanding and alignment throughout the production process.
- **Venue-Wide A/V Integration:** Design and implement comprehensive A/V solutions for entire venue environments, including programming multiple video walls, lighting fixtures, and creating custom content libraries aligned with client brand identities.

- **Technical Leadership:** Lead multi-disciplinary teams of up to 8 technicians and creatives, ensuring cohesive multimedia productions while maintaining exceptional technical standards.
- **Creative Problem-Solving:** Develop innovative solutions for complex A/V challenges, ensuring uninterrupted experiences for audiences of 500+ at premier events.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Independent A/V Contractor & Visual Artist

*Freelance | DC/NOVA Metro Area | 2021–Present*

- Designed and programmed integrated lighting and video mapping systems for prominent venues including Club STFU in Navy Yard, DC, utilizing Resolume, MediaMaster, MadMapper, and Chamsys.
- Developed venue-specific visual content libraries tailored to client branding, resulting in consistent and distinctive visual identities.
- Created custom MIDI controllers and control interfaces, enabling intuitive operation by venue staff with minimal technical training.
- Applied production management principles to anticipate potential technical challenges, creating contingency plans that prevented show-stopping issues during critical events.

#### Professional Reference:

Robert Stern | (301) 665-7018 | Solo Mute Productions | [www.solomuteproductions.com](http://www.solomuteproductions.com) |

### Video Engineer (V1)

*Ravens TailGOAT Events | Baltimore, MD | 2023 & 2024 Seasons*

- Led A/V production for large-scale pre-game events sponsored by Jimmies Seafood, featuring performances by DJ Pauly D and other high-profile artists.
- Managed a team of technicians and creatives, overseeing video panel installation, system configuration, and on-site maintenance.
- Coordinated with sponsors and artist management teams to develop and execute custom visuals aligned with branding and performance requirements.
- Produced on-the-fly visual content tailored to each game's theme, enhancing the fan experience and maintaining high energy throughout the event.

#### Professional Reference:

Lamar Kennard | (410) 205-6455 | Lamar Live Productions | [www.lamar-live.com](http://www.lamar-live.com) |

### A/V Event Technician, V1 & Visual Content Designer

*Congressional Black Caucus Week | Washington, DC | 2023 & 2024*

- Designed and deployed custom visual content for high-profile events at prestigious venues, including the Waldorf Astoria and the National Museum of African American History and Culture.
- Configured and managed large-scale video walls using Novastar controllers, ensuring seamless playback and optimal visual quality during live performances by artists such as Ashanti, Ja Rule, and SWV.
- Oversaw technical setup and on-site execution for a full week of events, troubleshooting issues and ensuring flawless performance.

**Professional Reference:**

Mollie Coleman | (202) 746-7721 | High Caliber Events | [www.highcaliberevents.com](http://www.highcaliberevents.com) |

## **Video Switcher & A/V Technician**

*QTS Data Center / Sterling, VA / September, 2024*

- Operated as video switcher for high-level government contractor events, managing real-time video switching.
- Worked with high-level professional team managing multi-camera PTE setup, BlackMagic ATEM switching software (including ATEM Mini Pro ISO) to ensure seamless recording of program feeds.
- Integrated slides, live camera feeds, and other visual elements into the program output, maintaining professional quality throughout the event.

**Professional Reference:**

David Strebe | (202) 746-7721 | Capitol Media Systems | [www.capitolmediasystems.com](http://www.capitolmediasystems.com) |

## **Freelance A/V Technician & Event Designer**

*Art Basel / Mooon.Party Miami, FL / December 2023 & 2024*

- Collaborated with technology and art stakeholders to create immersive visual experiences for exclusive cryptocurrency and digital art events.
- Designed and executed projection mapping installations that showcased digital artworks in innovative spatial contexts.
- Managed hundreds of sponsor and branding logos in different formats, ensuring that projection mapping and LED wall content for a full week of events, with three separate on-site schedules rotating for lunch, dinner, and evening run-of-shows, were formatted and displayed correctly.

## Professional References:

Kelly Max | [modernistxyz.com](http://modernistxyz.com)

## Resident VJ

*AliceAnna Social Club / Baltimore, MD / 2022–Present*

- Created and performed dynamic visual content for a diverse range of musical performances, establishing the venue's distinctive visual aesthetic.
- Developed a comprehensive library of visual loops and effects tailored to different music genres and special events.
- Collaborated closely with DJs, musicians, and event coordinators to align visual presentations with musical themes and programming.

## A/V Technician & Lighting Programmer

*Generation Grace Church / Marshall, VA / Completed December, 2024*

- Programmed and configured a state-of-the-art 18-panel DVS LED wall using a NOVASTAR VX600 processor, creating an 8 x 14' foot display.
- Programmed 16 ADJ STRYKER WASH lights and a CHAMSYS MAGICQ MINI controller for church performances, creating presets for general stage wash, motion effects, and warm white stage lighting for video recordings.
- Designed color mixing options and motion presets, ensuring lights were positioned to avoid direct audience aiming while enhancing stage presence.

## Professional Reference:

Pastor Sam Rogers | (540) 877-8240 | Generation Grace Church | [generationgrace.com](http://generationgrace.com)

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

### **PhD - Social & Organizational Psychology**

*VU University - Amsterdam, the Netherlands / 2018*

### **MSc - Social & Organizational Psychology**

*VU University - Amsterdam [Cum Laude] / 2011*

### **BA - Interdisciplinary Humanities**

*Michigan State University [Honors College] / 2006*