DEANNA DAWSON

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DIRECTOR, SOCIAL & INFLUENCER MARKETING

Brand + Growth Leader | Creator Strategy | Campaign Performance | Team Leadership

Strategic and results-driven digital marketing leader with 10+ years scaling brand presence through award-winning social and influencer programs. Expert in building traffic-driving content ecosystems, activating creators at every level, and translating storytelling into measurable impact. Known for blending creative vision with data-first thinking to grow loyal brand communities.

EXPERIENCE

Zenni Optical

Director, Social & Influencer Marketing
Novato, CA • 2017–2023

Zenni is the #1 online eyewear brand in the U.S., with 6M+ monthly visitors.

- Grew social traffic from 1% to 7%, turning it into a top-4 traffic driver surpassing email, display, and affiliate
- Managed \$1M annual influencer budget, optimizing spend across celebrity, micro-influencer, and UGC campaigns
- Launched first-ever celebrity campaign in Zenni's history, featuring Rashida Jones — extended campaign value for 3+ years
- Led 100+ multi-platform campaigns, including Pride, International Women's Day, Fan Favorites, and Festival Style
- II Delivered high-ROI partnerships with celebrities, designers, gamers, and creators boosting engagement and brand equity
- Established Brand Ambassador and UGC programs to activate top fans and superusers
- ii Directed quarterly reporting across platforms (TikTok, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest, Snap), using insights to optimize performance and inform C-suite strategy

Snapfish (Hewlett-Packard)

Director, PR & Social Media San Francisco, CA • 2008–2017

- Led public relations and social media strategy from startup through HP acquisition and beyond, supporting white-label photo services for Costco, Walgreens, and Amazon
- Orchestrated brand's largest PR moment with a product giveaway on Oprah, generating a record-breaking spike in traffic and engagement
- Built Snapfish's early presence on Facebook, Pinterest, and Twitter, positioning the brand as a digital leader
- Created successful brand collaborations with American Girl, Martha Stewart, and multiple feature film campaigns
- Pioneered BlogHer sponsorship and hosted early influencer events and "Blogging Parties," establishing Snapfish in the early influencer landscape

Snapfish (Hewlett-Packard)

Director of Design & Customer Experience

- Led CX redesign efforts to streamline online ordering and improve product satisfaction

NBCi / CNET / NBC Internet

Executive Producer / Managing Producer

- Produced digital media and content strategies at the height of the early web, with a focus on news and consumer experience

EDUCATION

BA in English

University of Oregon

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Best in Class for Social Campaigns: HashtagPaid feature
- Featured Guest on Digital Revolution Podcast: Strategic Social Media Tips
- Pinterest + Snapchat Case Studies: Zenni Success Stories
- Bazaar Voice: Top Social Collaborations Recognition

TOOLS & PLATFORMS

Sprout Social • Google Analytics • Meta Ads Manager • Pinterest Analytics • TikTok Creative Center • Traackr • AspirelQ • Canva • Figma • Adobe Creative Suite

CAMPAIGN EXAMPLES

- **Pride Campaign**: Drove record engagement with authentic creator partnerships
- **Valentine's Campaign**: Influencer-led social gifting initiative with measurable UGC boost
- **!/ International Women's Day**: Elevated diverse voices with long-form video and social-first storytelling
- **Festival Style**: TikTok-first campaign with Gen Z creators that doubled average engagement
- To see visuals and more visit portfolio https://www.deannaleedawson.com/