

ASH DUGGIRALA

PUBLISHING PROJECT MANAGER

Ash Duggirala is an accomplished Project Manager at Ooligan Press with a passion for inclusive editing practices and queer book publishing. A lifelong and dedicated learner, Ash has done extensive research on both topics. She has experience as a collaborative leader in tourism and nonprofit public relations, and as a storyteller in higher education marketing and communications.

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

2024 - 2026

PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY

- Book Publishing, M.A.

2019 - 2023

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

- English & Textual Studies, B.A.
 - *Distinction in English & Textual Studies*
- Psychology, B.A.
- Graduated Magna Cum Laude
 - *Renée Crown Honors Program*

SKILLS

- Copy & Developmental Editing
- Marketing & Publicity
- Managing Author Relationships
- Project & Title Management
- Evaluating Submissions
- Media Monitoring
- Newsletter Creation
- Collaboration & Cooperation
- Written & Verbal Communication
- Organization
- Identifying & Predicting Trends
- Contract Negotiation
- Profit & Loss Statements

COURSEWORK

- Book Marketing
- Literary Agents & Acquisitions
- Developmental Editing
- Publishing Management
- Researching Book Publishing

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ooligan Press

2024 - PRESENT

Project Manager

- Promoted from staff to project manager in March 2025.
- Liaises with authors to maintain author-publisher relationships.
- Creates and enacts production timelines, marketing plans, design briefs, and publicity strategies.
- Writes blurb and review requests for acquired manuscripts.
- Evaluates submitted works for potential acquisition.
- Manages a team of approximately 5 staff members.

Cayuga County Convention & Visitors Bureau

2023 - 2024

Public Relations Manager

- Allocated funds and managed an annual PR budget of \$180,000.
- Pursued media leads, tracked media mentions, wrote press releases, and pitched stories to a curated list of relevant outlets.
- Attended trade shows and planned media events.
- Researched and developed office-wide DEI strategies.

Horizons Foundation

2022 - 2023

Editorial & Public Relations Intern

- Designed, pitched, and enacted official communication plans.
- Drafted press releases and email newsletters.
- Pitched and wrote journalistic blog posts adhering to brand voice, AP Style, and an in-house style guide.
- Used WordPress to maintain the foundation's website.

Syracuse University

2020 - 2021

Editorial Intern

- Edited stories for digital and in-print publication.
- Finalized drafts of advertisements, magazines, and webpages.
- Applied AP Style and elements of an in-house style guide.
- Created and led a department-wide seminar on editing best practices for diversity and inclusion.

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

More Than Just Survival Literature: Mid-Century Lesbian

2026

Pulp and Its Influences on Today's Lesbian Romance
Forthcoming graduate thesis at Portland State University

An Old Tale Given New Life: Queer Possibility (and Probability) in Little Red Riding Hood and Its Retellings

2023

Undergraduate thesis completed at Syracuse University