



## **talisha abana kali**

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### **words that describe me...**

Designer-of-choice for multi-million-dollar estate design projects in the Bahamas. Won multiple International Interior Design Association awards. Passionate about delighting clients with functional and inspired designs. Motivating project manager, adept at forming and leading cross-functional teams to deliver projects on time. Native Bahamian who interacts well with local and international clients. Intuitive, organized, and meticulous.

### **areas of expertise...**

- ▶ Interior Design
- ▶ Budget Management
- ▶ Sketching & Modelling
- ▶ Client Relations
- ▶ Team Leadership
- ▶ Vendor Management
- ▶ Project Design & Execution
- ▶ Space Planning
- ▶ Sophisticated Presentations

### **professional experience...**

**Casa De La Mer Fina**, Nassau, The Commonwealth of the Bahamas (7/1998 – Present)

#### ***Interior Designer/Owner***

Founded and managed successful interior design firm. Defined needs and vision of residential clients. Delivered designs to meet visual, functional, and budgetary requirements. Directed and coached administrative and design of 7. Defined specifications and managed all phases of projects. Liaised among clients, contractors, and architects. Sourced materials, negotiated pricing, and obtained samples. Wrote design-related advice articles for the ***Caribbean Life*** periodical.

- Planned, designed, and coordinated remodelling and design projects **valued up to \$1.1 million**.
- Developed lighting plan, model unit décor, clubhouse layout/décor, and common area landscape design for new **\$32 million upscale condominium community**.
- Created compelling marketing and advertising strategies to attract new clients and take business to next level, increasing annual project count from 14 in 2004, to 28 in 2006, and 41 in 2008.
- Voted **“Best Designer”** by readers of ***Caribbean Life*** magazine – chosen from 12 nominees.
- Earned **Caribbean IIDA’s 2008 Gold Medal** for master retreat design, **2007 Silver Medal** for kitchen design, and **2004 Gold Medal** for Bahamian Colonial-style home renovation.
- Featured in home and garden section of ***Nassau Guardian*** 6 times and ***Freeport New*** twice.
- Designed formal living room for prestigious **“The 2007 Ultimate Beach Paradise”** charity event in which 2,500 visitors paid \$B45 to tour showcase homes. Received 36 requests for design bids following event.

### **education...**

**The College of the Bahamas**, Nassau, The Commonwealth of the Bahamas

**Bachelor of Arts**: Interior Design, 6/1998

### **professional affiliation...**

- ▶ Allied Member, International Interior Design Association
- ▶ Certified Interior Decorator International

### **referees...**

**Adon Thomas**, Former Minister of Aviation: Grand Bahamas Island • (242) 555-1220 • adon@email.com

**Etienne Beauvais**, Prestigious Artist: Grand Bahamas Island • (242) 555-9880 • etienne@email.com

**Elliston Francis Wallace**, Award-winning Architect: Nassau • (242) 555-7540 • claire@email.com

## Project Summary:

### Regional Requirements:

- Bahamian résumés always contain references (called referees) at the bottom of the résumés rather than in a separate document.
- Résumés in this area start with an opening summary highlighting the candidate's major achievements and distinguishing skills.
- Bahamian résumés are formatted on 8.5 x 11 inch paper.
- Caribbean English is used.
- There is a strong emphasis on awards and it is also considered valuable to get press coverage. Luckily this candidate earned both during her short career.
- I did not point out the field from which she was chosen for her awards because the client told me that there was a rather small pool in her area.
- Bahamian money is represented as "\$B." That does not mean billion.
- One page résumés are common for this field and this geographic region.
- I gathered the requirements for this country via Internet research, interviewing the client, and reviewing several job postings originating from The Commonwealth of the Bahamas.