

# **IRA BRYCK 255 Strong Street, Amherst, Massachusetts 01002**

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## **EMPLOYMENT**

**Director** UMass Amherst Family Business Center, Amherst, MA 1994- present

**Consultant** *Family Business Problems? Ira Bryck, Solutions!* 1994-present

**President/Co-owner** Barasch's Better Kids' Clothes, Freeport, NY 1976-93

**Teacher/Co-director** Central Community School, K-6 Open Classroom in Buffalo, NY 1975-76

## **ACADEMIC POSITIONS AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING**

**Instructor** MBA course *Understanding Family Business* in UMass Isenberg School of Management, beginning Fall 2011

**Facilitator/Trainer** for UMass Continuing & Professional Education; including focusing on strengths, creating a great workplace, idea gathering systems, improving morale and communication

**Creator/Trainer** for UMass Outreach (Continuing Education, public radio, agricultural extension, STEM, University Without Walls, Arts Extension Service) using improvisation actors to solicit ideas for improved customer service

**Search committee member** at UMass, as well as Strategic Planning committees for UMass Outreach

## **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

**Designer/Consultant** of family business trainings, planning sessions, mediations and retreats, including • strategizing generational transitions • determining whether to keep or sell • creating opportunity for the next generation • professionalizing family companies • conflict resolution • sharing the family vision • selecting successors • creating boards and councils • plotting preferable futures • theater and improv for trainings of various sorts

**Presenter** to many industry and educational groups, including Paperboard Box Manufacturers Association, Pest Control Technology Association, John Deere Retailers Association, Piano Retailers Association, International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association, Black McDonalds Operators Association, Massachusetts Maple Producers Association, New England Grows Conference, UMass Green School, MassMutual Life, Northwestern Mutual Life, Prudential Life, Pioneer Valley Estate Planning Council, New England Business Brokers Association, Social Venture Network, University Continuing Education Association and many more

**Mediator** trained at Franklin Mediation Collaborative

**Mentor** pro bono brainstorming with budding entrepreneurs around Pioneer Valley, helping them think through niche, marketing, growth, change

**Mentor** pro bono brainstorming with entrepreneurs who've left or closed their family business, or managers between jobs, to figure out next steps

**Roundtable facilitator** for tenants of business incubator, Springfield Technical Community College

**Roundtable facilitator** for groups of company presidents and key family members

## AWARDS

**Innovative Program Award** International Family Business Program Association

**Innovative & Creative Programming Award** University Professional & Continuing Education Association

**First Place Award** Alliance for Community Media, Northeast Video Festival for my play *Wait Till Your Father Gets Home*

## PUBLICATIONS & MEDIA

**Author** of 3 plays about family business that continue to be performed globally: *Perils of Pauline's Family Business*, *Wait Till Your Father Gets Home*, *A Tough Nut to Crack*

**Creator, Author, Editor** of *Related Matters* newsletter 1994-2009, now online

**Creator, author, editor** of [umassfbc.com](http://umassfbc.com) family business website

**Author** of family business advice column, *Dear Ira: Fresh Air and Cold Water for the Perplexed Family Business*

**Author** of website and blog for family business consulting practice, at [irabryck.com](http://irabryck.com)

**Interview Subject** in numerous venues, including *Wall Street Journal*, *NY Times*, *Business Week*, *Forbes*, *Nation's Business*, *National Public Radio Marketplace*, *Fortune*, *CNBC*, *Family Business Magazine*, *Entrepreneur*, *Banker and Tradesman*, *Smart Money*, and many other local, national, global publications and stations

## AFFILIATIONS

**Editorial Board Member** Journal of Family Business Management (UK)

**Member** Family Business Study Group, Princeton, NJ

**Member** New England Regional Family Business Program Directors learning group

**Member** Family Business Alliance: annual conference of university based family business educators/program directors

**Member** Family Firm Institute: international organization of family business expert advisors

**Committee Member** Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Plan for Progress

**Committee Member** Town of Amherst, Mass. Town/Commercial Relations Committee 2004-2008

**Board of Directors Member** Brookfield Farm CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) 1994-1999

## EDUCATION

*State University of New York at Buffalo* BS Elementary Education, Sociology, graduated 1975  
*Pennsylvania State University* 1971-72

## INTERESTS

Playwriting, cycling, hiking, travel, meditation, public speaking, poetry, cartooning