

What is DM? In this spreadsheet I listed people and their careers who I aspire to. I ranked them by seniority and how much their career interests me. The job that most resembles position in field.

Timeline: I included the people who are active and prolific writers who have a strong voice and confident perspective. They write about both design, art, and their personal lives. They write about their interests. They all spent a long time at a major org plus which seems to be where they had their career or took off. It's what they're known for. A ranking factor is that only one person on that list are consultants which is not the part of the job that interests me. Career at top consumer product companies interest me. Many people on the list have been a startup co-founder or had some kind of entrepreneurship role. The later interest me more.

Insight: I should keep writing. I like it. I'm good at it, and people who have careers I want also do it. People who have careers I want, but don't write, are less inspiring to me. There's a correlation there. I should consider the fact of the matter though, I need to consider **Product Leads in the labor where I want to be in a few years**. I love the work and the people, but right now there isn't an opportunity to go deep on building a great product and learn over the years. Can Product give me what I need to stay on a trajectory that enables to get DM? (How to follow the same path to get to the same place as these people? Not necessarily I need a master's that in the last 10 years, some of these people were in high school, so I'm on track or ahead of the curve.

Name	Current Position on LinkedIn (2018)	Writer?	Did I personally know the person enough to ask for career advice?	2015-2018	2010-2015	2005-2010	1995-2005
Nina Mehta	Design Manager at Pluralsight Labs	Yes	Yes	Designer at Yahoo, Designer at Slack, Google, Lyft, Reactor	Individual, Sir Newspaper Designer, HCR at Indiana University, Graphic Designer, Journalism & Cultural Science at Indiana University, Journalism at Highschool		
Directors							
Julie Zhou	Product Design Director at Facebook (newsfeed, groups, mobile)	Yes	Could get intro	Director, Product Design at design department, VP of User Experience at Microsoft, Design Director at Mozilla at Etsy	Manager, Product Design at Facebook	Product Design at Facebook, Stanford Computer Science	
Kho Vinh	Principal Designer at Adobe	Yes	Yes	Director of Mobile at Etsy, Monitor/Advisor (alt. virtual team), SDC co-founder, Slackgen Fund.	CEO at Miami, Design Director at New York Times	Principal at Behavior	
Craig Mohr	Adviser/Mentor at Medium...	Yes	Could get intro	Partner at FireProof, Product Designer at Popcard	Partner at Ohio Music Press, City University London	University of Pennsylvania (BSE, Fine Arts), Computer Science	
Geoff Tashan	Product Design Director at Facebook	Yes	No	Partner at Tashan + Lee (Medians)	Partner at Tashan + Lee	Partner at Tashan + Lee, Associate Creative Director at Motion Media	
Managers							
Chad Thomson	Design Manager at Uber	Somewhat	Yes	UX Manager at Airbnb , Freelance & Designer	Co-founder, UX Freelance Product Designer Intern at Google, Design Intern at SCWNGA, UX Design Intern at Google, Airbnb/Uber Exchange	UX at Google, OAU '10, IBM UX Design/Researcher	
Henry Muddatta	Design Manager at Quora	Somewhat	Could get intro	Product Designer at Quora	UX at Google, UX at Feedburner, Zango	Web Designer/Developer at University of Wisconsin	
John Zarabey	Design Partner at Google Ventures	Yes	Yes	Design Partner at Google Ventures	Designer - Principal Designer at Facebook (core design products, visual standards and patterns)	Designer at Facebook (core design products, visual standards and patterns)	
Solita Cuevas	Adviser at Dropbox	No	Yes	Head of design at Dropbox , advisor at Dropbox	Mark Porter Associates (personal design consultancy)	Creative Director at Guardian UK News & Media	
Mark Porter	Mark Porter Associates	Somewhat	Yes	Mark Porter Associates (personal design consultancy)	Creative Director at The Factory	Head of Design at Bala , Designer and co-founder of Dropdock	
Wilson Moor	Digital Designer at The California Sunday Magazine	Maybe	No	Product Designer at Facebook		Interactive Designer at Apple	