



Karime Saad

BIOMATERIALS DESIGNER | BUSINESS AND ENGINEERING BACKGROUND

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SUMMARY

Biomaterials designer and fabricator with a background in art and design and a parallel career leading business operations and engineering teams. Grow and fabricate mycelium composites and bioplastics into finished objects while managing multi-department operations, supplier relationships, and product development for a growing company. Equally comfortable in a grow room, a studio, and a P&L review.

CULTIVATION & MYCOLOGY

Operations Assistant, Cam's Urban Farm - *Queens, NY (2026 - Present, Part-time)*

- Substrate preparation and pasteurization through fruiting, harvest, and packaging across six strains, supplying weekly farmers markets, restaurants, and a distributor

Operations Manager, El Paso Mushroom Co. - *El Paso, TX (2026 - Present, Part-time, Currently remote)*

- Ran daily farm operations independently, covering fruiting, contamination control, harvest, packaging, and wholesale delivery; trained and now remotely support the two-person team that replaced me

BIOMATERIAL AND CREATIVE PRACTICE

Independent Biomaterials Designer & Fabricator - *Brooklyn, NY - El Paso, TX (2025 - Present)*

- Design and grow functional objects from mycelium composites, managing the full process from substrate preparation and mold design through inoculation, growth, demolding, and drying
- Formulate and test biomaterials across categories: agar-based bioplastics, mineral and shell-based bioceramics, and agricultural waste composites

Member, Genspace NY - *Brooklyn, NY (2025 - Present)*

- Conduct independent material experiments in a community biolab, currently working on mycelium leather and a lint-based biomaterial derived from textile waste

OPERATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERSHIP

EPCOM / Syscom Colombia - *El Paso, TX, Bogotá, Colombia, and Remote (2020 - 2025)*

Branch Operations Manager & Software Engineering Manager (concurrent)

- Ran branch operations and the software engineering team simultaneously, overseeing sales, purchasing, accounting, logistics, warehouse, product engineering, and business intelligence
- Increased sales by 60% through process optimization, supplier negotiation, and expanded partnerships
- Managed a team of 5 engineers building the company's ERP and e-commerce platform, owning product direction and UI/UX across inventory, purchasing, invoicing, sales, and warehouse management
- Built automation directly into the company's ERP, eliminating manual handoffs between departments

Independent Developer & Technical Consultant - *Remote (2026 - Present)*

- Build and launch e-commerce platforms end-to-end for independent product and service businesses - customer storefronts, dashboards, order management, and payment processing (Next.js, Supabase, Vercel)
- Serve as sole technical owner on every project, from architecture and third-party integrations through deployment, maintenance, and iteration

Software Engineer, Target Corporate - *Minneapolis, MN (2018 - 2020)*

- Designed and shipped internal applications end-to-end - front-end, back-end, UI/UX, and API integrations - replacing legacy tools used company-wide

EDUCATION

MBA - *U. of Texas at El Paso, Graduated with Honors (2020 - 2022)*

B.S. Electrical & Computer Engineering - *U. of Texas at Austin (2013 - 2017)*

SKILLS

Languages: Spanish (Native), English (Fluent)

Studio & Craft: Ceramics, acrylic painting