

TESS THOMAS

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Summary

Web developer with expertise in design, communication, and collaborative build processes.

Skills

Technical:

CSS3, ES6, Git, HTML5, HTMX, JavaScript, MySQL, .NET Core MVC, Node, NPM, PHP, React

Soft:

- Depth of experience in and comfort with the language of art and design.
- Unusual ability to bridge communication gaps between aesthetic and technical concerns.
- Keen eye for tracking and balancing granular and macro objectives.
- Affable nature and excellent work ethic.
- Strong commitment to individual and team growth.
- Significant respect for others' time and energy.

Education

Web Developer AAS / 2022 - 2024

Wake Tech Community College. Raleigh-Durham, NC
4.0 GPA

Sculpture / 2005 - 2007

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Chicago, IL

Studio Art / 2003 - 2005

Studio Art, 2003-2005, College of Charleston. Charleston, SC

Relevant Experience

Bar Manager

The StopAlong / Chicago, IL / 2018 - 2022

Managed team of bartenders and servers at award-winning restaurant and bar while recovering from spine injury that ended woodworking career.

- Collaborated with owner to pivot business model and successfully survive pandemic.
- Lead diverse team of individuals with distinct communication needs.
- Developed bar program.
- Cultivated relationships with customers to drive repeat business in fast-paced, demanding service environment.

Head Carpenter

TTS Studios / Charleston, SC / 2015 - 2018

Managed crew of carpenters for custom fabrication studio that specialized in theatrical sets for major productions.

- Optimized shop workflow, safety, and efficiency practices.
- Advised owner on implementation of new tools and technologies.
- Collaborated with Tony-award winning set designer to design, build, and test unique pieces for challenging spaces.
- Communicated with other fabrication departments to keep projects on track and in budget.
- Interfaced with supply chain entities and coordinated transport logistics.
- Trained and mentored new hires.

Furniture Design Instructor

Yestermorrow Design-Build School / 2015 - 2018

Taught students in Woodworking Certificate Program how to design, model, build, test, and finish their first non-prescribed furniture pieces.

- Fostered inclusive, supportive learning environment for groups of students with diverse age, background, and skill level ranges.
- Demonstrated iterative design processes, troubleshooting frameworks, technical skills, tool safety, shop organization, and materials procurement.
- Worked with program director to create adaptive lessons on real-world relationship building and job readiness in the field of woodworking.

Awards and Acknowledgements

2024 Dallas Herring Award Nominee

Selection final April 2024 - Wake Tech Community College

Recipient of William Gaston Foundation Scholarship

2022 / 2023 - Wake Tech Community College

Press

Work from former career in design, art and woodworking featured in Dwell Magazine, Forbes, The Economist, Post & Courier