



Ryan Ives | Designer & Educator

Professional Profile

Visual designer and educator with 13 years of freelance client service and in-classroom experience driving education outcomes for a diverse K-12 student population. Known for building relationships, taking an empathetic approach to understand various stakeholder needs, creative problem-solving, and delivering solutions on a shoestring budget. Ready to translate unique background into a graphic design position to deliver content to customers and help teachers and students succeed.

Experience

Photography & Art Teacher

Montgomery County Public Schools | 2012 - present

Serve as photography & art teacher, stand-in parent, and unofficial therapist for an average of 150 students across 5-8 classes per day in Title 1 K-12 schools:

- Expanded the art department staff by 66%, while doubled the number of offerings to provide a robust suite of art classes focusing on different media
- Collaborate with fellow teachers to support their own learning objectives, incorporate different subjects, make real-world connections, and foster holistic student success
 - Key win: Coordinated with ESOL teacher to overcome language barrier and provide lessons in Spanish, resulting in 100% lesson completion for those students.
- Serve as union representative for four school departments, facilitating collaborative problem-solving and navigating conflicts through stakeholder management to support teacher needs
- Successfully navigated COVID-19 restrictions, creating, delivering and teaching lessons in a virtual setting throughout the 2020-2021 school year:
 - Used Zoom to facilitate live lessons and conduct meetings to connect with students, build relationships, and foster creativity virtually, resulting in high engagement levels
 - Adapted lesson plans and created on-demand videos demonstrating how to access lessons, grades, and resources; submit finished work; leverage different phone camera techniques for Apple and Android settings; learn tricks and tips using everyday objects; successfully use free to professional level photo editing apps
- Design and implement rich, dynamic lessons for different ages and levels of ability that engage students, address their particular needs, foster creativity, and strengthen their problem-solving skills
- Create a safe, inclusive environment for students and encourage diversity by highlighting artists from marginalized communities to make photography accessible and demonstrate the craft's viability as a possible future profession
- Objectively grade and generate feedback on all student work consistently and constructively
- Assess and evaluate finished lessons to build upon what worked, re-develop what did not, and incorporate new/refined procedures, techniques or strategies
- Constantly research artists, new skills, techniques, and strategies, as well as explore software to grow and deliver industry-current skills to students



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Contact

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[LinkedIn](#)

Remote - Baltimore Washington Area

Website

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Skills

Problem solving, time management, multitasking, collaboration, adaptability, open to feedback, empathy, compassion, curiosity, and critical thinking

Adobe Creative Suite, Figma, Sketch and InVision, prototyping and wireframing, HTML and CSS, G Suite, PowerPoint, photography

Education

Post-Bachelor's in Art Education
Towson University
Towson, MD

Bachelor's of Fine Arts in
Printmaking and Photography
Maryland Institute College of Art
Baltimore, MD

Owner - Operator - Designer

Sidework Studio | 2014 - 2020

Built and managed all aspects of a small business catering to clients seeking custom designs, as well as uniquely-designed letterpress printed goods sold online and in brick-and-mortar stores:

- Created original artwork and designs for greeting cards, wedding invitation suites, business cards, stationery, fine art prints, photographs and additional client requests.
- Designed and maintained the studio's website, which included an online shop, wholesale ordering page, custom work form, and showcased past work
- Built and constructed digital or physical mockups and prototypes for all designs in order to test fidelity before creating the final product
- Communicated regularly with stockists, clients and other vendors to share various updates and maintain professional relationships
- Strived to meet all clients' needs by collaborating with them to meet their individual needs and educating them on the processes of design, letterpress printing, and website design and building

Special & Alternative Education Paraeducator

Howard County Public Schools | 2009 - 2012

- Collaborated closely with teachers to nurture, support, engage, and promote the success of students with special needs, learning disabilities, and behavioral needs
- Worked with a caseload of 15-30 students each day, both in small groups or in one-on-one settings, to facilitate the education supports and accommodations in students' IEPs
- Contributed to IEP and 504 meetings with meaningful insights about students to parents, case workers, teachers and staff, and administrators

Letterpress Operator

Peabody Press | 2008 - 2009

- Administered press checks with clients and their in-progress printing job to inspect the quality of work, consistency and matching of colors, layout, etc., and to approve and move forward or make changes based on client feedback
- Worked closely with sales and leadership teams to ensure quality and consistency of all jobs were met
- Letterpress printed projects both in-house for upper management and individual outside clients ranging from stationery to scientific testing materials used in labs