Jeff Townsend

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« Education »

Master of Fine Arts

Peck School of the Arts, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI (2023)

■ Areas of Research

Video Art / Film

Motion Graphics

Adobe Creative Cloud

Creative Coding

3D Modeling / Digital Fabrication

Bachelor of Arts in Digital Art

University of Wisconsin - Parkside, Kenosha, WI (2013)

« Academic Appointments »

Lecturer in Graphic Design, Digital Art, and Digital Fabrication

University of Wisconsin - Parkside, Kenosha, WI (2019 - Present)

Courses Taught

Introduction to Digital Art

Introduction to Graphic Design

CAD I - SketchUp

CAD I - AutoCAD

Introduction to 2-D Design (Spring 2024)

Digital Fabrication I (Spring 2024)

Digital Fabrication Lab Manager

University of Wisconsin - Parkside, Kenosha, WI (2023 - Present)

Responsible for developing and operating a multifaceted lab space for students and faculty, my role involves establishing lab policies, managing inventory systems, and creating documentation for equipment and materials. Additionally, I conduct presentations to acquaint students and faculty with the lab's resources, its potential applications, and its integration into curricula. I also contributed to developing the lab's visual identity and wayfinding system.

« Current Research »

Al and Generative Art

My research in Al and Generative Art is a pursuit to redefine artistic creation, employing Al as a collaborative entity. This involves utilizing Al's extensive coding capabilities and platforms like PyTorch, OpenCV, and GitHub and creatively applying them to challenge traditional artistic boundaries. My focus is on exploring unconventional uses of Al to unlock new creative potentials, aiming to establish a transformative intersection between technology and artistic practice. This endeavor not only enhances my own art but also seeks to advance the understanding and application of Al in art education.

« Professional Graphic Design Experience »

Gallery Manager and Lead Designer

Tory Folliard Gallery, Milwaukee, WI (2014 - 2019)

■I developed and implemented comprehensive visual communication strategies for gallery exhibitions, encompassing print and digital media. This included creating promotional materials such as show cards, mailers, posters, web content, social media graphics, and comprehensive exhibition catalogs. Efficiently managed and organized the gallery's inventory and digital files using database software, ensuring accurate online representation. I led a major project to transition the gallery's website to a new platform (from WordPress to Squarespace), which involved designing an intuitive user interface and enhancing user experience. Conducted targeted email marketing campaigns through Constant Contact, leveraging database insights to engage with specific client segments. I regularly photographed artwork and edited images for digital publication across web, email, and database platforms.

« Speaking Engagements »

Special Topics Speaking Engagements: Understanding the Gallery / Artist Relationship

I spoke on the topic of the artist's relationship with a gallery. Subjects included but were not limited to how to approach a gallery, what items to send to a Gallery, how to present one's artwork - both physically and digitally, the importance of an online presence, how artists should build one's CV, an artist's contract with a gallery, and unwritten rules within the gallery world. The lectures also included question-and-answer portions.

■ University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Guest Speaker, Career Tools and Strategies April 2018

■ Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI

Guest Speaker, Professional Development Series for Artists

"Insight from the Other Side: A Gallery's Perspective, A Conversation with Jeff Townsend"

November 2016

■ Wisconsin Pastel Artists, Milwaukee, WI Guest Speaker

May 2016

Guest Speaker, Senior Critique Seminar / Professional Practice

University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI

University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Kenosha, WI

2015 - 2021

I spoke with groups of students about possible career paths for design majors and design work within an art gallery. I presented examples of my work and shared skills I learned, both in school and on the job, which helped me in that field.

« Selected Fine Art Exhibitions »

2023 Home Is in Your Head

Kenilworth Square East Gallery

Milwaukee, WI

2021 Grad Studio Review

Refraction Gallery

Milwaukee, WI

2018 WMSE Presents: Art & Music

The Historic Pritzlaff

Milwaukee. WI

(an auction event supporting WMSE and the local arts community)

2017 August Open Exhibition

Artworks

Kenosha, WI

« Professional Conferences and Activities »

2023 FAB LAB 101 For Teachers

Three Lakes, WI

July 2023

Course Attendee

2018 EXPO Chicago

Chicago, IL

September 2018

Gallery Representative

2013 AIGA Design Camp

Nisswa, MN

October 2013

Conference attendee

Attended lectures on web design, typography, user experience, and branding

2012 Typecon 2012: MKESHFT

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Assistant Instructor

August 2012

Experimental letterpress workshop held at the University of Wisconsin -

Milwaukee

« Publications »

Straylight Literary Arts Magazine

Spring 2022

Cover Art