

TESS THOMAS

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Summary

Dynamic and creative web developer with unique depth of expertise in design, communication, and collaborative build processes. Eager to contribute toward user-centric, performant projects by applying a well-honed sensibility for holistic development practices and a laser focus on craftsmanship.

Skills

Technical: JavaScript, JSON, React, Node.js, Vite.js, Git, NPM, semantic HTML, CSS, responsive design, mobile-first design, WCAG, CMS (WordPress, Shopify), Bootstrap, Open Props, Figma, Photoshop, SEO, UX research, PHP, .Net Core MVC, MySQL (phpMyAdmin), MongoDB, FTP.

Personal:

- Flexible, creative problem solver.
- Committed to individual and collaborative growth.
- Adaptable, thoughtful team player.
- Well-seasoned in systems thinking.
- Excellent written and verbal communicator.
- Experienced leader and educator.

Recent Projects

ASP.NET Core MVC App

Repo: https://github.com/tessthom/tess_thomas_dotnetapp/tree/main

- Developed a full-stack, responsive .NET app with a focus on dynamic routing.
- Created Razor layouts for structured HTML elements.
- Leveraged vanilla JS for a search feature with auto complete.

Refactored Destination Marketing Site

Link: <https://tessthom.github.io/topsail-v2/>

- Rebuilt destination marketing site with responsive, mobile-first design.
- Improved accessibility using WCAG standards.
- Leveraged vanilla JS and native CSS for DOM manipulation, including dynamic scroll effects.

Super Juice Batch Recipe Calculator

Link: <https://tessthom.github.io/super-juice-calculator/>

- Designed and developed a mobile-first site with calculator for an industry specific tool.
- Created all content including vector art.
- Utilized vanilla JS with session storage to create dynamic UI features.
- Implemented client-side form validation.
- Performed market and UX research.

Awards and Acknowledgements

2024 Dallas Herring Award Finalist

For embodying Dr. Herring's philosophy of "taking people where they are and carrying them as far as they can go." Selection final April 2024.

2023 Recipient of Triangle Technology Executives Council Scholarship

Regular attendee of TTEC meet ups.

2022 Recipient of William Gaston Foundation Scholarship

For scholastic achievement in the face of adversity.

Press

Work from studio and building-arts career featured in Dwell Magazine, Forbes, The Economist, and the Post & Courier.

Experience

Manager

The StopAlong / Chicago, IL / 2018 - 2022

Lead small team at award-winning restaurant and bar while transitioning from woodworking due to spine injury.

- Collaborated with owner to pivot business model through pandemic, offsetting expected loss.
- Lead diverse group of individuals with distinct communication needs.
- Implemented new POS system, integrating 3rd party services.

Lead Carpenter

TTS Studios / Charleston, SC / 2015 - 2018

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

- Optimized shop workflow, safety, and efficiency practices, improving accident rates and average completion times.
- Implemented new tools and technologies, increasing concurrent client capacity.
- Collaborated with designers to model, test and build unique pieces with challenging constraints and critical user-safety requirements.
- Communicated with other departments to keep projects on time 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 new woodworkers to design, model, build, test, and sell studio furniture.

- Fostered inclusive learning environment for classes with diverse backgrounds and skill levels.
- 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.

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