

EDUCATION

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY: Normal, IL¹ Spring 2024
BFA in Graphic Design

ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Oglesby, IL Spring 2021
Associates Degree

EXPERIENCE

ILLUSTRATOR & TYPE LAYOUT: Children's Book Oct 2024 - Present
• Developed reader-friendly page layouts balancing text and visuals for optimal storytelling flow
• Collaborated with author to align design elements with her creative vision

GRAPHIC & PAGE DESIGNER: Harvard University Press Aug 2024 - Jan 2025
• Worked with authors to design effective layouts to enhance readability while maintaining brand standards
• Created cohesive graphic elements and typography systems that effectively communicated complex academic concepts across diverse publishing projects

UI/UX & GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Design Streak Studio Aug 2023 - Jul 2024
• Assisting brands and events with unique and expressive promotional materials and identity
• Worked side-by-side with other designers within a creative studio environment

EDITORIAL ILLUSTRATOR & SOCIAL MEDIA: The Vidette Apr 2023 - May 2024
• Leading the illustration efforts for many editorial cartoons as well as social media graphics
• Re-brand and template designs for social media pages
• Designing brand materials for various departments

DESIGN INTERN: University Marketing & Communications² Aug 2023 - Dec 2023
• Helped to create custom signage, event materials, and promotional products, for various departments
• Collaborated with senior designers as an intern

SKILLS

HARD

Illustration
Animation
Branding
3D

SOFT

Communication
Adaptability
Teamwork

TOOLS

Adobe Suite
Clip Studio
Blender
Figma



JAMES MCGURK

Graphic Design & Illustration

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REFERENCES

LADAN BAHMANI: Associate Professor¹

BahmaniLadan@gmail.com

SEAN THORNTON: Graphic Designer²

swthorn@ilstu.edu

JEFF HIGGERSON: Graphic Designer²

KJHigge@gmail.com

HANNAH BAGGET: Book Illustration Client & Auburn Professor

hcb0017@auburn.edu

EXHIBITIONS

**ISU STUDENT
ANNUAL 2024**

Blanket: 1-Min.
Animated Short

Blink: Tools
for Rediscovery

**FOX TAIL FILM
FESTIVAL**

Blanket: 1-Min.
Animated Short

BEST IN: ANIMATION

**MCCLEAN COUNTY
97TH ANNUAL**

LEČO: Slovak
Home Cooking

BEST IN SHOW: VIDEO

