

web guy • word guy • designer

🏠 1531 Packard St., Apt. #15 • Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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} **James Thomas**

Experience

Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellow • Sept. 2010 - April 2011

Took computer science and art/design courses at the University of Michigan while exploring how technical know-how can solve newsroom problems; helped create and publish the Spubble Lite iPhone app

Web Editor, *Detroit Free Press* • Aug. 1999 - Sept. 2010

Maintained *Freep.com*, Michigan's largest news site

- **Daily responsibilities:** Searched wires for fresh news; edited reporters' raw copy; exported and proofread nearly 100 stories per night; prepared audio, video and other Web-only content; troubleshoot software problems
- **Special projects:** Built unique Web pages for coverage exceeding the treatment of the daily site; helped move *Freep.com* to new servers in 2009
- **Improved cooperation with Graphics:** Cross-trained with our Graphics department; created print graphics and taught artists how to prepare Web graphics, resulting in more visually rich projects appearing on the site

Computer experience

Web design, development and administration

Fourteen years building and managing sites, with a thorough understanding of Web standards and object-oriented programming principles

Expertise in Adobe Creative Suite and coding from scratch in text editors and IDEs;

- **Languages:** (X)HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, MySQL, Java
- **Frameworks:** SAXOTech, Drupal, jQuery, Google Gadgets
- **Repositories:** <https://github.com/parisminton>

Examples of my work

<http://replay.waybackmachine.org/20090818101308/>

<http://www.freep.com/christchild>

Designed and coded this Emmy-winning presentation on a Detroit foster home for boys with difficulties in traditional foster care

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/spubble-lite/id408355153?mt=8>

Created a graphical interface for Spubble Lite, a proof-of-concept iOS app that helps autistic kids communicate through images; working on an iPad version

Education

- **Florida A&M University:** Journalism major, 1995 through 1999
- **Poynter Institute:** Fellowship in Visual Journalism, summer 1998

Awards

- **National News & Documentary Emmy Award,** New Approaches to News and Documentary Programming, 2009
- **Runner-up, Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism,** Multimedia, 2009
- **SPJ National Mark of Excellence Award,** Column Writing, 1997
- **National Knight Ridder Scholarship,** 1995

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**Other
experience**



Teacher, Northland Roller Rink • Dec. 2002 - Aug. 2006

Led a Saturday morning class that helped kids improve their balance, movements and rhythm in Detroit-style roller skating; taught adults, too

References



Patrick Byrne

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