#### **EDUCATION**

#### **Northeastern University**

Tia Thomson

Boston, Massachusetts BFA in Design expected May 2020 Minor in Art History GPA: 3.9, Honors Program 400+ Service Hours completed since Fall 2015

#### City University of Hong Kong

Social Work & Political Science, Fall 2018

## Study Abroad: Rome & Venice, Italy

Photography & Art History, Summer 2016

#### **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

Design Research, Service Design, Product Design, Design Thinking Facilitation, Project Management, User Testing & Interviewing, Advocacy & Activism, Adobe Creative Suite, Visual Design, Microsoft Office

#### **AWARDS & HONORS**

#### **University Scholars Program**

Full tuition scholarship awarded to top 1% of students on basis of academic achievement, leadership, and service.

## Student Advisory Board 2018, College of Arts, Media & Design

Representative of Art+Design Department. Advised Dean regarding strengths and challenges within the college and shared student perspectives.

#### Hack@Brown 2017: Best Web App

Award presented by Google. Designed "Newseum," an app that displays works of art correlated with current events in the news.

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

# **Presenter**, New York State Recreation and Parks Society Conference, 2018

Presented a tool for quantifying the quality and inclusivity of playgrounds for children with disabilities to identify specific community needs in new playspaces and renovations.

# **Student Speaker**, Northeastern Board of Trustees Committee Meeting, April 2018

Spoke alongside the Dean of the College of Arts, Media & Design on the value of humanics-based education. Presented a service design project that reimagined the air travel experience of patrons with disabilities.

#### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Economic Growth Co-Op

Jan 2019 - Present | Boston, MA

As part of GBCC's Civic Innovation Lab, project manage the Talentsetters initiative, which aims to reduce hiring bias and diversify the talent pipeline to link students of color to high-quality internship opportunities. Provide support on various initiatives that engage the business community in advancing racial equity in the private sector.

## iFactory, UX & Information Architecture Co-Op

Jan 2018 - Aug 2018 | Boston, MA

Designed complex CMS websites for higher education and non-profit clients. Worked on UX research and usability testing. Presented deliverables to clients and facilitated the feedback process to build consensus. Developed a digital tool for streamlining the design team's user persona creation process.

## The Honest Company, Digital Design Intern

Summer 2017 | Playa Vista, CA

Worked on the Honest.com website redesign project. Conducted and analyzed user tests. Supported digital/web design needs across all aspects of the product portfolio, including marketing materials and website assets.

## Scout Studio, Project Lead

Jan 2017 - Apr 2017 | Boston, MA

Led a team of students through the design and development of a marketing website and brand identity for a meeting management product. Managed client communications, weekly sprints, and meetings. Additionally worked as a Studio Designer for two other semester-long projects, focusing on UX/UI.

## GLBTQ Legal Advocates and Defenders, Design Intern

Oct 2015 - Apr 2016 | Boston, MA

Designed print and web publications, social media imagery and infographics to publicize events and educate the public and/or government officials about policy issues.

#### **RESEARCH PROJECTS**

## **Elderly Technology Literacy Project, Research Assistant**

Jan 2019 - Present | Boston, MA

Serve as a research assistant for a study about improving the elderly population's sense of autonomy through designing a service to support their technology literacy. Further, analyze guidelines for evaluating service design and formulate criteria for service evaluation through the lens of autonomy.

## Second Chance Education Project, Research Assistant

Jan 2018 - Aug 2018 | Boston, MA

Worked with service design professor Dr. Miso Kim and a small international group of scholars to research accesibility of higher education within prisons. Developed and presented innovative solutions for providing educational funding to incarcerated individuals.

## The Playground Project: INDIGO, Researcher & Designer

Sep 2017 - May 2018 | Boston, MA

Worked with a team of students on a service research project that advocates for inclusive playgrounds within Boston. Created the brand identity and led the design and development of a new website.