


t a r a j o h n s o n

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 To Whom It May Concern:

To me, there is nothing sweeter than making a design sing; creating work that both does its job and reaches the viewer in a new and unexpected way. I enjoy the problem solving, creativity, and collaboration involved in this kind of work and strive to improve my skills with each day.

Over the past few years I've gained considerable experience in a fast-paced, professional environment and have learned more about the kind of space that I desire for the long term. To put it simply, I seek a positive environment that allows for the creation of great work with a conscience. I want to make design that matters, to work with people striving for a common goal. I don't want to *just* make things look pretty—I want to believe in the message that my design promotes.

I am confident that my technical proficiency, artistic experience, and aptitude for communication would be a great asset to your company. I hope to have a chance to prove myself as a hardworking and creative contributor to your team.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Tara Johnson



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➤ Highlights of Qualifications

- Associate's Degree in Graphic Design
- Bachelor's Degree in Photography
- Highly skilled in Photoshop, ImageReady, Illustrator, InDesign, and Dreamweaver (Mac/PC)
- Working knowledge of Flash, CSS, HTML and Microsoft Office (Mac/PC)
- 3.5 yrs. as a freelance print & web designer
- 1.5 years as an in-house designer & web developer
- Extensive e-newsletter and SEO experience
- Prepress & print management savvy

➤ Work Experience

MGM Solutions, Bellingham, WA July 2006-December 2007

- In-house Graphic Designer, Web Developer, Photographer, and Graphical Marketing Director for an ambitious, young web-based company. Have designed several catalogs, brochures, trade show backdrops, managed and designed a handful of websites, directed and shot all product photography, created original graphics and illustrations, designed/managed all e-newsletters for several companies owned by MGM Solutions and created Flash demos for trade shows.

Freelance Designer. April 2005-Present

- Freelance projects include logo/identity, catalogs, brochures, web design, email campaigners, posters, t-shirts, flyers, postcards, and booklets. Clients include Strelcheck Chiropractic, Yamato Engines, Texture Clothing, and Mobile Medicine.

Freelance Photographer. April 2003-Present

- Over the years photography assignments have ranged from food photography and interior commercial shots to event and wedding photography. Also have a great deal of product photography and studio experience. Past clients include Bellingham Technical College, Sustainable Connections, Double M Ranch Design, Planned Parenthood and Blue Cross.

➤ Other Relevant Experience

Graphic Design, WCC August 2005-August 2006

- Have completed classes in all aspects of the layout, illustration, and print production track- this involves training in all Adobe Creative Suite applications as well as an in-depth prepress and postpress education. Have also completed web design instruction involving XHTML, Dreamweaver, & Flash.

➤ Education

Bachelor's of Fine Art, Photography University of Illinois, 2001

Associate's Degree, Graphic Design Whatcom Community College, 2006

Portfolio available upon request