

# Hey there!

# I'm Chris Wildeman.

I'm a leader with a design and production background, solving problems through a creative lens.

## Skills

- Creative ideation
- Team management
- Apparel design/production
- Graphic Design
- Mac power user

## Tools

- Adobe CC
- Office 365
- AirTable
- iWork
- Procreate
- RIPs

## Education

2008 | A.A.

### GRAPHIC DESIGN

Brookdale Community College

## Organizations

2011-PRESENT

### FREELANCER'S UNION

Card-carrying member of the Freelancers Union, which gives independent workers a powerful voice through policy advocacy, research, and thought leadership.

## Professional Experience

2019 - 2019

### DTG GENERAL MANAGER

Zumiez, Inc. | Corona, CA

Started from scratch and built up a DTG production business unit under the Zumiez umbrella of creative services. Began with 2k weekly impressions and are currently putting out roughly 50k impressions weekly with a 24/7 operation that supports Zumiez store sales as well as our internal Private Labels and external brand partners.

### DTG PRODUCTION MANAGER

Printfly Corp. | Philadelphia, PA

Optimized the DTG Production Department with an awesome team to boost output and improve overall print quality.

2018 - 2019

### APPLICATIONS & SHOWROOM SPECIALIST

KORNIT DIGITAL NORTH AMERICA | Englewood, NJ

Opened and set up a state-of-the-art demo facility in Kornit's new North American HQ. Optimized systems to provide highest-quality prints and operated the facility with a lofty standard of excellence. Utilized my experience in apparel design, print, and production methods for presales samples and product demos. With practical knowledge of color models, applications, and production methods, I was able to educate prospective customers and help them along their journey to DTG. Contributed to alpha and in-house beta testing on new products to ensure optimal integration with the Kornit ecosystem.

2017 - 2018

### FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER

KORNIT DIGITAL NORTH AMERICA | Milwaukee, WI

Used technical knowledge of Kornit systems to perform all manner of tasks associated with new asset installations, diagnostics and troubleshooting, tradeshow setup and performance, system optimization and color correction, etc.

2015 - 2017

### ART DIRECTOR/PRODUCTION MANAGER

IMAGINE DIGITAL PRINTING/FREEZE/CENTRAL MILLS | Dayton, NJ

Helped to actualize the successful implementation of Print-On-Demand programs with both Amazon and Zulily, handled all digital sampling for very active sales force and all Licensor meetings with accounts like Target, Forever21, Hot Topic, JC Penney, Kohl's, Walmart, Urban Outfitters, etc., handled all digital art file prep and editing, and managed a full staff of press operators and production support staff.

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## Hobbies

- Cartoons with my kids
- Secret handshakes
- Re-watching West Wing
- Coffee
- Horror movies
- Dissecting language
- Manual screenprinting
- Making fun ideas a reality

## Favorite days

1. Saturday
2. Sunday
3. Friday
4. Thursday
5. Wednesday
6. Tuesday
7. Monday

## Favorite months

1. October
2. November
3. September
4. April
5. May
6. February/June
7. March
8. January/July
9. August
10. December

## Experience Continued

2014 – 2015

### SENIOR PRODUCTION ARTIST

#### IMAGINE SCREEN PRINTING & PRODUCTION/FREEZE/CENTRAL MILLS | Dayton, NJ

Maintained high print standards and brand guidelines for a number of licensed properties such as WWE, Disney, Marvel, Paramount, and Nickelodeon while managing the training of all new artists, researching and implementing new techniques and new tech within Production Art department, handling Pantone Color Callouts and color correction, and creating high-level color separations for a fast-paced, deadline-heavy department.

2012 – 2014

### HEAD DESIGNER/PRODUCTION ARTIST

#### I&M PRINTING, INC. | Pittsburgh, PA

Managed all design work for myriad customer base, organized and codified backlog of all digital files and outputted films, ensured customer art matched proof/pre-production samples, obtained, studied, and implemented the usage of up-to-date RIP and design software, and helped to focus both the production and design style of the shop to reflect a more diverse and contemporary feel.

2005 – PRESENT

### OWNER/DESIGNER/PRINTER

#### HEARTS ARE WILD PRINT & DESIGN | Freehold, NJ

Brainstormed, comped, proofed, and finalized all design and print work, Educated clients on different substrates, inks, and printing procedures to facilitate their decision-making process, Mentored several aspiring screen printers (aged 7 to 30), Consulted on design and/or printing for the following clients:

MODESTo! Studios, Altar Bar/AltarTV, Planned Parenthood of Western PA, National Council of Jewish Women, Vertical Source Apparel, TwoRiver Clothing, Royalton Clothing, URL Studios, God's Child Clothing, Charm and Wit Fashion and Retail Copywriting, The School of Rock, Animal Nature, SeaSpray Inn, and the Ocean Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

2010 – 2011

### PRODUCTION ARTIST

#### TRAU & LOEVNER | Pittsburgh, PA

Ensured all Pantone color callouts were matched and proper inks and processes used, created color separations, maintained high level of print standards, and adhered to strict branding guidelines, and designed for a number of licensed properties such as:

Hershey Bears (AHL), Where's Waldo, Humane Society of the United States, American Taekwondo Association, Chevrolet-General Motors, Ford Motor Company, PepsiCo, and General Mills

2003 – PRESENT

### OWNER/DESIGNER/PRINTER

#### CASKET COMPANY CLOTHING | Freehold, NJ

Conceptualized, created, and finalized all design and print work, collaborated with co-owner/guest artists to craft designs based on concepts, designed on a freelance level for bands, organizations, venues, etc. as per meetings with personnel from respective groups, In 2012, Casket Co. was selected to participate in a fashion show at Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburgh) alongside H&M, ModCloth, and Urban Outfitters.

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## References

BRAD TOWELL

**OWNER, MODESTO!**

412.390.4476

brad@modestostudios.com

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Art Director at Trau & Loevner for about a year, became a dear friend and constant collaborator. Brad is a creative dynamo and I aspire to be as humble and centered a human as he is.

DJ MESSER

**PRODUCTION MANAGER, IDP**

732.614.2099

messer2323@gmail.com

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Assistant Production Manager at Imagine Digital Printing for two years. I've known DJ since I was 15 years old; he knows about my start, my drive, and where I want to go.

CHRIS BENNETT

**ART DIRECTOR, ISP&P**

732.966.2389

wilebennett@yahoo.com

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Art Director at Imagine Screen Printing and Production for two years. Bennett has been my art director in two different positions, and can attest to my personal relentlessness and my adaptability as a designer.

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JUSTIN PIERCE

**DIGITAL DESIGNER, FREELANCE**

908.433.6685

justinwilliampierce@gmail.com

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I met Justin my freshman year of high school, September of 1999. He's been a source of both inspiration and tomfoolery since the day we met.

BOB GUERCI

**MANAGER, HANGAR 13 GAMES/2K**

908.902.0722

rguerci81@gmail.com

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Bob and I met in a Speaking for Radio course in college. You don't know who your real friends are until they've helped you record a Macho Man-themed radio spot.

WELDON PUNDT

**APPLICATIONS MANAGER, KORNIT**

843.743.5429

weldon.pundt@kornit.com

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Weldon's hands-off management style afforded me plenty of room to get creative while still offering support. Now a good friend, Weldon can comment on my endurance and focus.