

# **KAITLIN McDOWELL**

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**703.336.7841** or cell **703.375.6984**

## **SET DESIGNER**

### **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

- Highly organized, disciplined, and technically proficient; work well under pressure
- Demonstrated ability to communicate knowledgeably with client and/or designer
- Able to synthesize visual information and translate design concepts into a finished product
- Equally effective working in self-managed projects and as a member of a team.

### **PROJECTS**

#### **Theater Sets**

Built and painted stage sets in wood and metal. Constructed stages for opera, ballet, and drama to different scales according to theater size—from 10 seats to 1500 seats. Prepared stage and operated the sets during shows. Coordinated with electricians, musicians, and actors. Built sets subcontracted by other theaters. Constructed sets and performed stage crew duties for visiting road shows

- The Julliard School, New York, New York, 1996 - 1998  
Selected for prestigious internship and continued as a builder, painter and MiG welder full time after completion of internship
- Smetana Opera House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1998  
Set builder for summer opera

#### **Special Events Design and Coordination**

Created static displays and balloon drops for conventions, weddings, parades, grand openings and motivational seminars for large organizations such as: AT&T, IBM, PanAm Games, and Bell Atlantic. Planned and constructed ecologically safe balloon releases. Designed and fabricated holiday window and showroom displays. Hired staff and supervised employees as needed. Received design award for balloon drop.

- Steinway and Sons, New York, New York, 1997 – 1998
- Balloon Events, Inc., Washington, D.C., 1995 – 1997
- Balloon Boutique, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1995

## **Museum Display/Historic Preservation**

Conducted historical research, designed and developed displays for interior of historic home and museum. Made interior renovations in historic home. Researched, planned, and designed period Christmas displays for 1854-1880. Fabricated museum exhibits to include 1/35<sup>th</sup> scale model of D-Day Omaha Beach landing, Viet Nam walk through jungle, fox holes, and a WWI trench. Painted military crests and maps. Displayed artifacts and dressed mannequins in historic battle uniforms. Received two Commander's Awards for Public Service and Volunteer of the Year Award.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Museum, Wheaton, Illinois, 2000 - 2002
- Fort Riley Historical and Archaeological Society, Fort Riley, Kansas, 2001 - 2002

## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Arts, Fine Woodworking, University of the Arts, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1995  
Television Production Workshop, Institute of Technology, Washington, D.C., 1993

## **RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- Furniture Apprentice, Ingram Smith Design Studio, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1994
- Assistant to Charles Horvak, Professor of Woodworking, The University of the Arts, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1995
- Director, Arts and Crafts Children's Summer Recreation Program, Wheaton, Illinois, 1993

## **DESIGN AWARDS**

- Otto Placek Award, Outstanding Finished Piece, Senior Thesis Show, 1995
- Achievement in Table Design, **The Design Book**, published design, 1994
- Hoosier Company Award, Excellence in Table Design, 1994