Theodore Taylor III

CONTACT

Henrico, Virginia
trtaylor3@gmail.com
540-588-5172

LinkedIn: **linkedin.com/in/theodore-taylor**
Portfolio: **tedikuma.com**
Web Development: **tedikuma.com/gallery/web-development**

EDUCATION

Virginia Commonwealth University
BFA Communication Arts (Illustration)
2004-2008

SUMMARY

Front-end web developer, designer, and award-winning children's book illustrator with 18 years of professional experience building accessible, responsive websites and 15 years creating illustration for publishing and editorial clients. Skilled in HTML, CSS, JavaScript, PHP, and CMS development (WordPress, Drupal), working in Agile teams with developers, designers, and project managers. Experienced in Git version control and deployment on Pantheon, WP Engine, and Upsun (Platform.sh).

Illustrated 13 picture books, graphic novels, and early readers for Penguin Random House, Macmillan, and Astra Publishing House, collaborating closely with art directors and editors. Additional experience in editorial illustration, branding, poster design, and self-publishing.

Proficient in Figma, Visual Studio Code, Procreate, and Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro, Lightroom Classic).

WORK EXPERIENCE

Illustrator, Author, & Designer

2008 - Present

- Collaborated with authors, editors, designers, and art directors at publishers including Penguin Random House, Macmillan, and Astra Publishing House to illustrate picture books, early readers, and graphic novels, from concept development, sketches, through final artwork, revisions, and publication.
- Produced editorial illustrations for publications including The Washington Post and School Library Journal, translating written content into compelling visual narratives on tight deadlines.
- Created award-winning, critically acclaimed work, including *When The Beat Was Born* which recieved the Coretta Scott King-John Steptoe New Talent Award and the Texas Bluebonnet Award. *Off The Wall* was named one of Kirkus Reviews' Best Picture Books, *Buzzing With Questions* was included on STEM lists, and *C Is For Country* reached the New York Times bestseller list.
- Presented illustration and book-making workshops and author/illustrator talks to elementary, middle school, and college audiences at schools, libraries, and independent bookstores, communicating creative processes to diverse audiences.
- Independently designed, illustrated, photographed, wrote, hand-bound, and self-published a series of books, handling all aspects of concept development, typography, layout, image production, and print production.
- Designed and painted large-scale murals for museums, private clients, and community mural events, from concept sketches through final installation.

The Brick Factory (formerly The Bivings Group)

Front End Web Developer & Designer

2008 - 2026

- Designed, developed, and launched custom WordPress and Drupal websites (themes, plugins/modules, and content architecture) for nonprofit, education, scientific, healthcare, and political clients using HTML5, CSS3, JavaScript, PHP, and React.
- Collaborated in Agile/Scrum teams with developers, designers, and project managers to deliver accessible (WCAG 2.1 AA), responsive, cross-browser, mobile-first websites on schedule.
- Translated Figma designs and UI/UX specifications into pixel-accurate, production-ready front-end code.
- Maintained and optimized content management systems (CMS), including bug fixes, security updates, performance tuning, and technical troubleshooting.
- Managed version control and CI/CD deployment workflows using Git, Docker, and DDEV across hosting platforms including Upsun (Platform.sh), WP Engine, and Pantheon.
- Built responsive HTML email templates and managed email marketing campaigns in Mailchimp.
- Created brand identities, icon sets, and editorial illustrations to support client marketing and visual design needs.
- Integrated AI-assisted development tools (Augment with Claude in Visual Studio Code) to accelerate coding, debugging, and documentation.

SKILLS & TOOLS

- Adobe Creative Suite: Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro, Lightroom Classic
- Procreate
- Editorial Illustration, Character Design, Icon Design, Branding
- Typography, Page Layout, Book Cover and Interior Design
- Print Production, Children's Book and Graphic Novel Publishing
- Mural Painting, Photography, Animation, Video and Audio Editing (Logic Pro, Ableton)
- Google Workspace
- HTML5, CSS3 / Sass, JavaScript, React, PHP
- WordPress, Drupal, Theme Development
- Responsive Web Design, Web Accessibility (WCAG), Design Systems
- UI/UX Design, Figma
- Cross-Browser Testing, Site Maintenance
- Git / GitHub, Docker, DDEV, Visual Studio Code
- Agile / Scrum, CI/CD, Version Control
- Pantheon, WP Engine, Upsun (Platform.sh)
- AI Development Tools (Augment, Claude)
- Mailchimp / HTML Email