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DAN VLAHOS

SUMMARY

Dan Vlahos is a Boston-based designer, artist, and educator. Vlahos is currently Assistant Professor of Visual and Performing Arts at Merrimack College where he teaches in the Graphic Design program and is presently a Presidential Fellow in the College's Interdisciplinary Institute. Vlahos' multidisciplinary design work has been recognized by the AIGA, the One Club and the Interactive Media Council. He began his career in Arnold Worldwide's Volkswagen Design Group in Boston. After Arnold he served as Creative Director for the architectural design firm Shepley Bulfinch. Vlahos' clients include Harvard University, Duke University, Educators for Social Responsibility and the Industrial History Center. Dan has both an MFA and BFA from Massachusetts College of Art and Design where he also began teaching in 2009 and was promoted to Assistant Professor in 2016. In 2017 Vlahos received a tenure-track teaching appointment at Merrimack College. Vlahos' research interests center upon contextual and interdisciplinary design along with project-based learning.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Merrimack College, North Andover, MA 2017–Present

Assistant Professor of Visual and Performing Arts, Graphic Design

Courses: Introduction to Graphic Design, Graphic Design 1, Graphic Design 3, 2-Dimensional Animation, 2-Dimensional Design, Visual Web Design, Motion Graphics, Movie Making, Image Making and Meaning and Generative Design

Dan Vlahos Design, Boston, MA 2000–Present

Freelance Creative Direction and Design

Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA 2016–2017

Assistant Professor of Communication Design, Graphic Design

Courses: Graphic Design 1, Graphic Design 2, Sophomore Studio, Senior Portfolio, Typography 2

Youth Design, Boston, MA, Summer 2016

Instructor, Youth Design Academy, Design Fundamentals

Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA 2008–2016

Visiting Lecturer; Graphic Design

Courses: Graphic Design 1

Shepley Bulfinch, Boston, MA 2006–2014

Creative Director

Startup Institute, Boston, MA 2012

Instructor; Product Development Track

Arnold Worldwide, Boston, MA 2000–2006

Graphic Designer, Volkswagen of America

EDUCATION

MFA, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA

Dynamic Media Institute Design MFA Program, 2015–2017

BFA, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA

Bachelor of Fine Arts: Graphic Design, 1996–2000

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

The Society of Printers, Boston, MA
Member, 2020-Present

FATE (Foundations in Art Theory and Education)
Member, 2018-Present

InFocus Camera Club
Member, 2018-Present

Merrimack College Interdisciplinary Institute
Affiliate Faculty Member, 2017-Present

Merrimack College Art Warriors and Design Club
Co-Advising Faculty, 2019-Present

Merrimack College Undergraduate Research Journal
Co-Advising Faculty, 2018-Present

AIGA, The Professional Organization for Design
Member, 2014-Present

Future Prep 101: How to Prepare Teens for Design Careers,
Boston Society of Architects, 2016-Present

Mission Hill Main Streets, Boston, MA
Design Committee, 2014-2018

Design Museum Boston
Founding Member, 2009-Present

Youth Design, Boston, MA
Instructor and Volunteer, 2013-2018

Common Boston, Boston, MA
Volunteer, 2011

Rindge School of Technical Arts, Cambridge, MA
Design Advisory Board, 2004-2008

SKILLS AND EXPERTISE

- Interdisciplinary research, strategy, branding and design direction for print, interactive, advertising, motion, editorial and environmental design
- In depth experience and proficiency with current graphic design software/ tools including the full Adobe Creative Suite and the latest web standards
- Comprehensive experience in design workflows, along with media/asset management, budgeting and production for print and web
- Design leadership, management, marketing and brand strategy with prior experience in architecture, academia, automotive and the arts
- Exceptional communication and instructional skills with experience leading and teaching visual design for startups, corporations and institutions

AWARDS, HONORS, PUBLICITY AND RECOGNITION

Merrimack College Presidential Fellowship,
Merrimack College Interdisciplinary Institute, 2020-2021
with Christopher Stuetzle, Ph.D.

“Summer Star Photography Book Project at Merrimack College 2019.”

Summer Star Wildlife Sanctuary Blog, May 2019

Designer of the Week and Interview,
Print Magazine, April 2018

Graduate Dean’s Scholarship
Massachusetts College of Art and Design, 2015

Regional Design Annual
Print Magazine, 2012

Best of New England Design Award
AIGA, The Professional Organization for Design, 2009

Notable Work for “Shepley Bulfinch” Rebranding
REBRAND 100 Global Awards, 2008

Notable Entry
Core77 Greener Gadgets Design Competition, 2008

Best in Class for Design, Development, and Implementation
Interactive Media Awards, Interactive Media Council, 2007

Best of Show, Integrated Campaigns
The Boston Ad Club Annual Hatch Awards, 2005

3rd Place, Digital Art Competition
Strathmore Paper Digital Media Art Contest, 2004

Mobius Award, Mixed Media Campaign
Mobius Awards, 2003

Promotional Design Awards
How Magazine, 2003

Design Merit Award
The One Club, One Show, 2003

Integrated Advertising/Design Award
International Automotive Advertising Awards (IAAA), 2003

CREATIVE, RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Co-Chair,[†] “New Perspectives on Digital Tools for Collaborative Teaching and Learning in Art and Design.” *Presentation of Papers Panel Session at the 18th Biennial Foundations in Art: Theory and Education Conference, with Martha Rettig, April 2021, Charlotte, NC*

Presenter,[†] “From Photojournalism to Critical Design: Two Interconnected Introductory Undergraduate Graphic Design Projects.” *11th Annual International Conference on Visual and Performing Arts, June 2020, Athens, Greece*

Publication, Long Paper, [†] “Youth Design in Boston: A Summary of Objectives, Components and Outcomes from 2003-2017.” *Dialogue: Proceedings of the AIGA Design Education Conference, AIGA Design Educators Community [Make] Conference, Indianapolis, June 2018 (Published in 2020)*

Guest Critic, Typography Reviews,
Judith Aronson, Professor of Graphic Design
Simmons University, Communications Department, May 2020

KEY

† PEER REVIEWED

‡ JURIED

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Guest Critic, Senior Portfolio Reviews,
Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Communication Design Department,
May 2020

Roundtable Discussion, “Innovations in Interdisciplinary Teaching and Pedagogy:
Merrimack College Interdisciplinary Institute Microgrant Recipients 2019-2020.”
Merrimack College, Arcidi Center, Moderated by Professor Simona Sharoni,
Co-Presented with Professor Christopher Stuetzle, November 18, 2019.

Guest Lecture, “Creativity, Design and the Human Condition”
Merrimack College, PSY1000: Introduction to Psychology Lecture,
By Invitation of Professor Raymond J. Shaw, September, 2019

Instructor, Summer Intensive Graphic Design Program
Massachusetts College of Art and Design,
Summer Youth Programs, July 2019

Group Photography Exhibition Participant and Designer,
“Mission Hill: Presence, Absence and Transformation.”
InFocus Camera Club, Boston
Multiple Locations, June 2019

Group Art Exhibition, “Reflections”
Mission Hill Artists Collective,
Boston Public Library, Parker Hill Branch, June 2019

Guest Critic, Senior Portfolio Reviews,
Lisa Rosowsky, Professor of Graphic Design
Massachusetts College of Art and Design,
Communications Design Department, May 2019

Guest Critic, Typography Reviews,
Judith Aronson, Professor of Graphic Design
Simmons University, Communications Department, May 2019

Presenter,[†] “Communication Design Research and Practice through Short,
Topic-Focused, Vox-Pop Style Multimedia Documentary Production.”
Co-Presented with Martha Rettig, Assistant Professor, MassArt
MODE (Motion Design) Summit 2019, Massey University,
Wellington, New Zealand, May-June 2019

Grant, “2019-20 Faculty Development Grant.” \$500 for use towards summer
film school, *Merrimack College, April 2019*

Guest Panelist, Faculty Research Panel in Honors Capstone Course
With Nicole Frisch, Rena Stroud and Roselita Fragoudakis
Led by Christy Pottroff, *Merrimack College, April 2019*

Panel Discussion[†] “What does Environmentalism and Social Justice have to
do with the visual arts? Everything.” Led by Nancy Wynn, Associate Professor,
Merrimack College, Session Abstract, “Exploring Human and Environmental Rights
through Undergraduate Dynamic Media Projects.” FATE (Foundations in Art Theory
and Education) Biennial Conference, Columbus College, April, 2019

Presenter,[†] “The Interdisciplinarity of Digital Product Design.”
Co-Presented with Jeff Vlahos, Product Designer, PillPack
NERD (New England Regional Developers Summit 2019,
Integrated Sciences Building, UMass Amherst, March 2019

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Peer Reviewer, Design Incubation Colloquium 5.3
Merrimack College, March 2019

Grant, "Davis Educational Foundation Grant." \$1000 for use towards an interdisciplinary arts workshop series, *Merrimack College, Fall 2018*

Guest Lecture: "Network" Pre-Screening Talk
Tambakos Film Series, Merrimack College, October 2018

Poster Exhibitor†, "The Designumentary: Communication Design Research and Practice through Topic-Focused, Vox-Pop Style Multimedia Documentary Production." *Decipher 2018 Design Educators Research Conference, Co-Sponsored by the AIGA Design Educators Community and Design as Research in the Americas, University of Michigan, September, 2018*

Guest Lecture, "Creativity, Design and the Human Condition"
Merrimack College, PSY1000: Introduction to Psychology Lecture, By Invitation of Professor Raymond J. Shaw, September, 2018

Co-Curator, "Bill Commerford: A Sampling Collection"
ARTSpace @ 1520 Tremont St., September 2018

Book Designer, "Some Thoughts for Chaz: A Book of Congratulatory Messages for Chaz Maviyane-Davies" *Limited Edition, Produced on the Occasion of the 2018 AIGA Boston Fellow Award, September 2018.*

Co-Curator, "Perspectives: Presented by ArtsTalks"
Featuring Works by: Bill Commerford, Kim Nielssen, Pegah Parsafar, and Victor Rios, *ARTSpace @ 1520 Tremont St., September 2018*

Group Art Exhibition, "New Works 2018: Mission Hill Community Art Show"
Boston Public Library, Parker Hill Branch, July–October 2018

Group Art Exhibition‡, "Perspectives: Presented by ArtsTalks"
ARTSpace @ 1520 Tremont St., June 2018

Presentation and Paper†, "Youth Design in Boston: A Summary of Objectives, Components and Outcomes from 2003-2017."
AIGA Design Educators Community [Make] Conference, Indianapolis, June 2018

Grant, "Developing Collaborative-Interdisciplinary Ties Between the Computer Science Program and the Graphic Design Program." \$2000 in collaboration with Christopher Stuetzle, *Merrimack College Interdisciplinary Institute, May 2018*

Group Art Exhibition‡, "Healing + Art Show"
Mission Hill Health Movement, June 2018

Guest Critic, Junior Graphic Design Reviews
Massachusetts College of Art & Design, May 2017

Guest Critic, Department of Art Senior Reviews
Emmanuel College, April 2018

Group Art Auction‡, "MassArt's 29th Annual Benefit Art Auction"
Massachusetts College of Art & Design, Bakalar and Paine Galleries, April 2018

Guest Lecture: "Blade Runner" Pre-Screening Talk
Tambakos Film Series, Merrimack College, April 2018

Invited Talk, 5 Minutes and a Mic
Writers House, Merrimack College, February, 2018

Peer Reviewer, 2018 Design Educator's Conference
Herron School of Art + Design, January 2018

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- Guest Critic, Senior Graphic Design Portfolio Review
Massachusetts College of Art & Design, December 2017
- Guest Lecture, “Psychology and Design”
*Merrimack College, PSY1000: Introduction to Psychology Lecture,
By Invitation of Professor Michael Stroud, October, 2017*
- Guest Lecture, “Differentiation of Design”
*Northeastern University School of Architecture
Case Studies 1, September 2017*
- Guest Critic, “DMI Tuneup”
*Massachusetts College of Art & Design,
Dynamic Media Institute MFA Program, September 2017*
- Group Exhibition, “2017 MFA Thesis Exhibition”
Bakalar, Paine and Doran Galleries, April 20–May 10, 2017
- Group Auction†, “MassArt’s 28th Annual Benefit Art Auction”
*Massachusetts College of Art & Design,
Bakalar and Paine Galleries, April 2017*
- Group Exhibition, “Fresh Media 2017”
*MassArt’s Dynamic Media Institute
Boston Cyberarts Gallery, March 2016*
- Lecture, “Branding in Architecture”
*Northeastern University School of Architecture
Case Studies 1, 2016*
- Gallery Performance, “Fingering Randomizer for Bb Trumpet”
Live Projection, Software Interface and Sound Installation
*Prototypical Prototypes: 15 Years of The Dynamic Media Institute at MassArt,
Doran Gallery, October 2016*
- Group Exhibition, “Fresh Media 2016”
Video Loop, MassArt’s Dynamic Media Institute
Boston Cyberarts Gallery, March 2016
- Group Exhibition, “Above the Fold”
*Third Biennial Juried Alumni Design Exhibition
Massachusetts College of Art and Design, June 2015*
- Guest Workshop, “Word + Image”
with Elizabeth Resnick
Youth Design, Boston, July 2014
- Panel Discussion, “Finding Your Path in Architecture: Graphic Design”
with Sam Pease, Kyle Jonasen, Brett Pierson
Boston Society of Architects, BSA Space, May 2014
- Group Presentation, “Boston X”
*DxB360 Social Innovation Challenge, Design Solutions for Women in Poverty,
AIGA Boston DxB 2014 Conference, Design Thinking Workshop Hosted by Moti-
vate Design, September 2014*
- Lecture, “Branding in Professional Practice”
with Jane Galli, AIA
Boston Architectural College, April 2014
- Presentation, “Mental Maps”
Presentation Series on Environmental Graphic Design
Shepley Bulfinch, August 2013

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Panelist, “Powerful Proposals: The Integration of Strategy, Graphics, and Writing” with Kathy McMahon, Barbara Hicks and Matt Hawk
Society of Marketing Professional Services, April 2012

Lecture and Tour “Mission Hill Today”
with Steven Nutter
Common Boston, June 2011

Lecture, “Why Design Now?”
A Review of The Cooper Hewitt National Design Triennial
Shepley Bulfinch, December 2010

Presentation and Workshop, “Presentation Techniques for Creatives”
MassArt Creative Careers Conference, October 2011

Lecture, “Narrative and Place”
with Matt Kirchman and Mark Minelli
BSA Museum and Exhibit Design Committee, August 2008

Guest Review, “A Designer’s Life” Lecture on Paul Rand
Lecture’s by Steven Heller and Chris Pullman
AIGA Boston Lecture Series, May 1999

INSTITUTIONAL, COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Member Faculty Senate Budget, Salary, & Benefits Committee,
2020-2021 Academic Year

Ad-Hoc Faculty Search Committee, Non-Tenure Track Theatre Professor
Application Reviews led by Dr. Kathleen Sills, Summer 2020

Ad-Hoc Committee, Working Groups on Restructuring the School of Liberal Arts:
Divisional Structures in Operational and Peer Institutions, *Summer 2020*

Recruitment, Merrimack College Admitted Students Day
March 2020

External Program Review Evaluator, Springfield College, Visual and Performing
Arts Department, *Fall 2020*

Artwork Auction, Donation to Black & White GALA at Emmanuel College,
Honoring Catholic education at St. Mary of the Assumption School
in Brookline, MA, Listening to Jarrett’s Creation, 2018 (1 of 3 in a series)
Acrylic on American Aspen Wood Panel
January 2020

Recruitment, Merrimack College Open House
October 19, 2019

Chair, Faculty Senate Technology Resources Committee,
2019-2020 Academic Year

AIGA Boston, 35th Anniversary Planning Committee,
Programming Team and Pro-Bono Graphic Design, Fall 2019

Brand & External Partnerships Committee, Agenda for the Future Working
Groups, Spring 2019

Recruitment, NACAC, Performing and Visual Arts College Fair
Departmental Recruiting with Merrimack Admissions
Emmanuel College, November 2018

Recruitment, Merrimack College Open House
November 2018

Pro-Bono Graphic Design, Information Diagram, Interdisciplinary Institute,
Strategic Plan, September 2018
At the Request of Professor Simona Sharoni

Discover Program Academic Adviser,
2018-2019 Academic Year

At-Large Member, Faculty Senate Technology Resources Committee,
2018-2019 Academic Year

New Course Development, "Data Visualization" for the development of an
Undergraduate Minor/Major in Data Analytics, *with Nancy Wynn, Summer 2018*

Co-Author, "Graphic Design Program Assessment Plan"
with Nancy Wynn, April 2018

Recruitment, Merrimack College Admitted Students Day
April 2018

Faculty Advisor, Merrimack College Undergraduate Research Journal
Merrimack College Writing Center, 2017-2018 Academic Year

Ad-Hoc Faculty Search Committee, Tenure Track Studio Arts Professor
Application Reviews led by Nancy Wynn, 2017-2018 Academic Year

Recruitment, NACAC, Performing and Visual Arts College Fair
Departmental Recruiting with Kathleen Sills
Emmanuel College, September 2017

Departmental Representative, Merrimack College Accepted Students Day
Crowe Hall, April 2018

Webmaster, Merrimack College Department of Visual and Performing Arts
2017-2018 Academic Year

Poster Design and Graphics, Interdisciplinary Institute Inaugural Event,
Through the Looking Glass (Documentary Film) by Kevin Bowe
Panel Discussion with Kevin Bowe, Anne Flaherty, Mish Zimdars
and Jane Caputi., November 2017

STUDENT RESEARCH, AWARDS AND DIRECTED STUDIES AT MERRIMACK COLLEGE

Directed Study, Maxwell Kiniklis, *Generative Design, Spring 2020*

Directed Studies, Kailey Meyer and Brooke Paoella, *FAA4820-A Motion Graphics,*
Fall 2019

2019 Graduate and Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Confer-
ence, "Rove Mobile App" Poster, Interdisciplinary Directed Study, *May 2019*

First Place Award, Morgan Sewall, Merrimack College Film Club, Experimental/
Documentary Category, "Breaking the Cycle." Produced in 2-Dimensional
Animation, *May 2019*

Work Study/Directed Study, Kevin Benkart, Nicholas Paolino, (Graphic Design
Majors) Emma Theberge, Ares Canetti, (Computer Science Majors)
Title: Designing and Developing Interactive Experiences, Spring 2019
Co-Taught with Christopher Stuetzle, Associate Professor,
Department of Computer Science

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Work Study/Directed Study, Jeff Lopilato and Joelle Ramey,
Seniors, Digital Design, *Developing the Short Documentary, Spring 2018*
Title: “The Visual and Performing Arts Department at Merrimack”
A Promotional/Marketing Video and Award Winning Entry
in the Merrimack College Film Club Spring Festival

Directed Study, Nina Deuterion, Senior, Digital Design
Motion Graphics, Spring 2018

Directed Study, Leoni Kirksey, Senior, Digital Design
Advanced Graphic Design, Fall 2017

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Online Course, “Human-Computer Interaction for User Experience Design”
Massachusetts Institute of Technology,
Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory,
Summer 2019

One-Day Course, “Presenting Data and Information”
Edward Tufte, Cambridge, MA, June 2019

Roundtable Discussion, “Integrating Inter/Diversities into Interdisciplinary
Teaching and Pedagogy: Prospects and Challenges”
Interdisciplinary Institute, Merrimack College, January 2019

Faculty Research Forum, “Teaching, Research, and Advocacy in Precarious
Political Times.” *Interdisciplinary Institute, Merrimack College, December 2019*

Training, “Discover Advisor Training”
Mark Allman, Merrimack College, July 2018

Workshop, “How Major is Your Major?”
Harry Twyman, University of Connecticut, July 2018

Workshop, “Team Based Learning”
Led by Dr. Jane Parent, Merrimack College, May 2018

Teaching Circle, Cultivating Interdisciplinary Teaching, Learning, and Pedagogy:
Fostering Curriculum Innovations, *Led by Dr. Debra Michals and Dr. Simona
Sharoni, Spring 2018*

Workshop, “Designing Formative Assessments and Rubrics”
Led by Janet Syed, M.Ed., December 2017

Workshop, “Creating Instructional Activities that Support Active Learning”
Led by Janet Syed, M.Ed., November, 2017

Class, “Language of Motion”
Professor Jan Kubasiewics, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Fall 2017

Class, “Introduction to Animation”
Professor Jake Fried, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Summer 2017