Jacob Waites

Visual & Interaction Designer Raleigh, NC

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August 2024 - Present REMOTE

July 2021 - January 2023 REMOTE

June 2021 - March 2022 CAMBRIDGE, MA

June 2021 - January 2022 **REMOTE**

ABOUT

Director-level design leader with 12+ years of experience in Visual Design and Design Engineering. I lead cross-functional teams from the canvas itself, balancing creative output to inspire teams with mentorship and strategic planning. I have proven ability to drive growth and retention of design talent that makes for mighty and diverse creative teams in many different industry environments.

EDUCATION

Florida State University Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) in Studio Art, Graphic Design

Northwest Florida State College Associate of Arts and Sciences (A.A.S.), Digital Comms and Media

SKILLS

Figma / Sketch / Framer Adobe Suite Presentation Design Google Suite Brand Design & Art Direction Web3 and blockchain technologies

Web Design & Front-End Dev Illustration **UI & Interaction Design** Motion Design Photography Hardware Dev & IoT Design

EXPERIENCE

Design Engineering Director

Freelance (Self-employed)

 Working across the gamut with large organizations, non-profits, and startups to create 0 to 1 brand identities and design systems in Figma. Creating and coding websites and apps in Framer, Webflow, and React. Leveraging tools like Cursor, Loveable, and Bolt to collaborate with startups on initial prototypes.

Interaction Design Director (Contract)

January 2023 - August 2024 **REMOTE**

U.S. HHS - Office of the U.S. Surgeon General

 Returned to lead the execution of visual design and motion design of our Social Connection and Loneliness advisory and Firearm Violence Advisory campaigns under Vivek Murthy.

Product Design

Urban Transit Labs - Station

 Created and maintained V2 of Station's design system and contributed to key strategy when shifting to group management before their acquisition by Coinbase. Led marketing efforts to increase adoption.

Head of Design

Zapata Computing

 Led projects involving multiple work products and oversaw the work of other specialists and contractors to increase adoption for pending IPO. Led a product design team and created a design system Zapata's flagship Orquestra Studio platform, and a re-launch of the marketing website.

Interaction Design Director (Contract)

U.S. HHS - Office of the U.S. Surgeon General

 Hired a team of 4 designers and 2 researchers for the Innovation & Design Group within the U.S. Office of the Surgeon General under Vivek Murthy. Designed branding of the Surgeon General's first ever podcast in American history: House Calls with Dr. Vivek Murthy (in the top 3-5% of podcasts on Spotify).

Sr. Experience Designer 2

March 2021 - August 2021 WATERTOWN, MA

Adobe - Creative Cloud Canvas

Sr. Visual & Interaction Design Lead

June 2016 - March 2021 CAMBRIDGE, MA

IDEO CoLab

Partner & Creative Director

June 2015 - June 2018 TALLAHASSEE, FL

Foremost Creative

Digital Product Designer / Art Director

November 2014 - June 2015 TALLAHASSEE, FL

TBWA\Worldwide

View full 12 year job experience on Linkedin (https://www.linkedin.com/in/tacoking/)

SPEAKING

Raleigh Durham Startup Week - Design is not your Differentiator (Unless it is) 2025 Startup Week Tallahasee - The Future of Collaboration 2022 AIGA Boston - Design for Augmented Intelligence - 2019

Domi - Smart Cities: Trends & Opportunities in Urban Tech - 2018