Experience

M&T Bank

Full-time → November 2018 - Present → Buffalo, NY

Having joined the bank amid a major enterprise transformation, I continually advocate for the customer through the use of design thinking and agile methodologies, supporting the delivery of next-generation digital solutions.

Vice President, Experience Design & Engineering, Design Tooling & Platforms Lead May 2022 - Present

Working alongside a team of fellow design leaders, I am responsible for the development, management, and support of digital tooling leveraged by the Experience Design and Engineering organization at M&T Bank, including:

- Management of the Currency Design System program and team, leading a current state assessment in order to identify challenges and stakeholder needs in service of tactical realignment with senior leadership around a single strategic approach
- Design, testing, and fielding of longitudinal studies intended to evaluate the usage of, purpose for, and satisfaction with the existing toolset utilized within ED&E, synthesizing and reporting relevant data and insights to inform future refinements
- Design and development of a low-code work tracking tool, allowing not only for the management and tracking of day-to-day work, but the aggregation of work across teams leveraging disparate enterprise tools, creating a single, centralized source of truth
- Partnering with Technology, configured local hardware to enable network access via a
 Mac device, allowing for the testing, documentation, and planning necessary to facilitate a
 broader pilot, during which participants tested said configuration and captured identified
 issues for tracking purposes
- Lead an effort to upgrade to Figma's Enterprise account tier, enabling more administrative control, workspace structure and governance, and expanded access to enterprise partners without added cost to ED&E via establishment of a chargeback model
- Development, population, coordination and launch of the ED&E Homebase, a custom team wiki intended to serve as the foundation for a central repository of team-related resources such as a team roster, support articles, design toolbox, and more
- Administration, procurement, licensing, and budgeting of toolset, meeting regularly with tool and vendor representatives to share feedback, discuss updates, and organize training

Assistant Vice President, Mobile & Online Banking, Product Design Lead

November 2020 - May 2022

Leading a multidisciplinary team of experience designers, researchers, and writers, I was responsible for the vision, coordination, and delivery of M&T's next-generation online banking experience, including:

- Lead an effort to assess, define, and deliver a journey-lead digital account migration experience for a recently acquired financial institution
- Lead an effort to define an experience vision for our next-generation online banking product, providing directional clarity and alignment on key experience principles for stakeholders and partners alike
- Lead an effort to assess the existing navigation of our online banking experience, ultimately
 defining not only an improved information architecture and interface, but a documented
 framework meant to ensure adherence to established principles as the experience is scaled
 and refined over time
- Leveraged over 15 years of industry experience to formalize and scale the UX discipline in Digital, managing a team of Senior Product Designers

Banking Officer, Senior Product Designer

November 2018 - November 2020

As an early member of the Experience Design and Engineering team at the bank, I supported Digital capabilities and initiatives, including:

Education

Harvard Extension School

Masters, Industrial-Organizational Psychology

2022 - Present

Roberts Wesleyan College

Bachelor of Science, Studio Art, Graphic Design

2004 - 2008

Rush-Henrietta High School High School Diploma

2001 - 2004

Skills

Product	Research
Problem framing	Study design
Persona writing	& planning
Backlog	Facilitation
prioritization	Data analysis
Roadmap	Synthesis of
planning	insights
Functional	Reporting findings

Functional decomposition

Design Development Experience Responsive front-end web mapping development Prototyping Object-oriented Information programming architecture Database Interaction design management Interface design Version control Motion design Agile Accessibility methodologies

Leadership
Humility
Empathy
Transparency
Candor
Diplomacy

Icon design

Illustration

General
Communication
Collaboration
Organization
Writing

Speaking

Management Coaching Mentorship

References

References are available upon request.

- Lead an effort to identify, define, validate, and contribute a series foundational interface components and patterns to the Currency design system for use in our next-generation online banking experience
- Icon and system design for our new ATM experience, providing consistent, scalable, and extendable patterns and guidelines
- Provided direction and support to junior designers, ensuring resourcing for and delivery of prioritized work

Fancy Labs LLC

Founder, Principal Designer and Developer

Self-employed → June 2007 - October 2018 → Buffalo, NY

What began as a freelance design operation on nights and weekends eventually grew into a full-time business and tight-knit team crafting digital experiences for some amazing clients and products, including:

- Lead the design of Welco.me, a new travel planning app that leverages the power of generative AI to provide users with personalized travel itineraries for cities all over the world; featured by The New York Times, Apple, TechCrunch, Uncrate, Product Hunt, and more
- Lead the design of Switchboard, a digital video publishing platform for NowThis News, the #1 social news brand in the world, enabling centralized and collaborative management, production, and publishing of stories across social media channels
- Design and iconography for Spring by Capital One, an online portal for small businesses to leverage their collective buying power to save like big ones
- Lead the design of GVNG, a new online donation platform empowering individuals to collect donations for over 1.6 million charities with the tap or click of a button
- Lead the design of The Loyalist, a sports-focused online apparel creation and fulfillment platform enabling e-commerce solutions for sports leagues and athletic organizations
- Design and illustration for Remind, the leading communication platform in education, enabling over 20 million educators, students, and parents to communicate securely
- Design and iconography for Songtrust, a global music publishing platform allowing over 300,000 songwriters to collect the royalties they deserve

Cameo

Product Designer

Full-time + April 2013 - March 2014 + Remote

As just one on a small team of designers, filmmakers, and technologists creating the future of mobile video editing, my responsibilities included:

- Iterative refinement of the private beta experience through user feedback, ensuring product quality and usability
- Creating marketing collateral for product news and releases, driving nearly half a million downloads in just over a month after public launch
- Creation of presentation materials for key fundraising and partnership opportunities

Despite our short run, we managed to accomplish a lot, including:

- + Received the App Store Editors' Choice award from Apple
- Were named one of the App Store's Best of 2013 by Apple
- Got acquired by Vimeo

Mint Digital

Designer

Full-time + April 2009 - October 2010 + New York, NY

Serving as a generalist, I was involved in nearly every aspect of the client service and product development lifecycle, from ideation and pitches, to the delivery of web-based applications, campaigns, and events for top brands, including:

- Creation and testing of prototypes for It's My Time!, a web-based social fashion competition held by United Colors of Benetton, allowing users to generate, submit, and vote on their favorite look books
- Provided interface design services for Bitbop, a new mobile video streaming service from Fox Interactive, allowing users to watch their favorite shows and movies across devices and channels
- Lead the branding and experience design of Quotabl.es, a new social network sponsored by Channel4, allowing users to save, organize, and share their favorite quotes

dwaiter

User Interface Designer and Frontend Developer

Full-time + June 2008 - December 2008 + Rochester, NY

Given my dual role, I was responsible for both the design and development of digital experiences for clients, including:

- A student portfolio submission, review, and sharing tool for the College of Imaging Arts and Sciences at RIT, driving student engagement and recruitment
- A tourism website for the Finger Lakes Visitors Connection of Ontario County, NY, showcasing information about the region, nearby activities, dining options, lodging and accommodations, upcoming events, vacation packages, and more
- An informational website for current and prospective members of the Luther Rice Society at George Washington University, showcasing information about the organization, news, upcoming events, and more

FORM Collective

Intern

Part-time + January 2007 - May 2007 + Rochester, NY

Learning as I worked alongside a small team of professional designers and developers, I delivered digital experiences for top brands, including:

- Lead the front-end development of an internal, company-facing intranet catalog of products for Constellation Brands
- Provided motion design and front-end develoment services for a Flash-based marketing campaign site and mini game for Scion