



KRISTINA
SOMMERHALTER
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

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PROFILE

Creative designer and educator with nearly two decades of experience crafting purposeful, cohesive visuals across digital, print, and experiential platforms. Skilled in Adobe Creative Suite, Figma, and Canva, with a strong foundation in brand storytelling, collaboration, and educator-focused design.

EDUCATION

B.A. Fine Art & Art History

Rutgers University
2002-2006

- Double Major in Fine Art
- (concentration in Graphic Design) & Art History
- Minor Psychology
- Dean's List Each Semester
- Magna Cum Laude Graduate

Licensed Teacher

Alternate Route
2007-2008

SKILLS

- Adobe Creative Suite
- Figma
- Canva
- Branding
- Campaign Design
- Typography
- Composition
- Concepting
- Cross-Functional Collaboration
- Digital & Print Production
- Storytelling
- Presentation Design
- Education & EdTech Insight
- Project Management & Time Efficiency

WORK EXPERIENCE

Lewis F. Cole Middle School

Fort Lee, NJ
2023-Present

Digital Arts Teacher

Teach digital arts for grades 7-8 using Canva, Photoshop, and Procreate. Focus on creativity, communication, and storytelling through brand and design projects.

- Develop and lead cross-platform design projects in branding, illustration, and animation
- Foster collaboration, feedback, and presentation skills in student teams
- Create instructional materials and visual examples using Adobe and Canva
- Translate complex creative tools into accessible, engaging lessons

loanDepot

Remote
2020-2022

Production Assistant / Marketing Design Support

Supported a Top 1% Loan Officer by managing a 9-figure pipeline while producing branded marketing materials and personalized client experiences. Combined administrative precision with creative design execution to strengthen client relationships and partner visibility.

- Designed social graphics, postcards, and client email templates
- Created custom gifts and packaging for VIP clients and partners
- Collaborated across sales and marketing teams to ensure brand consistency

The Promise Gifts

Etsy Shop
2019-2022
(Reopening 2025)

Founder / Designer

Founded and scaled a 6-figure e-commerce brand specializing in personalized digital and physical products. Focused on emotional connection, storytelling, and purposeful design while giving back to children's charities.

- Created and sold custom artwork, ornaments, and digital prints
- Produced cohesive branding, product photography, and packaging design
- Generated 9,000+ sales and maintained 5-star customer ratings

Ridgefield Park BOE

Ridgefield Park, NJ
(2007-2018)

Graphic Design Teacher

Developed multi-level graphic design courses emphasizing design principles, layout, and visual problem-solving. Created professional-style projects reflecting real-world workflows.

- Guided students through Adobe Creative Suite and branding projects
- Designed marketing materials for school and district initiatives

RECOGNITION

HENRY RUTGERS SCHOLAR

Rutgers College, New Brunswick
2006

Prestigious recognition for my writing skills

Foundr Magazine

Foundr
2019

Featured in publication for my entrepreneurial success

Top 1% Seller/Design

Etsy
2020

Recognized by Etsy as a Top Seller among millions of listings