

Angela Zarek

Senior Graphic Designer

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Professional Summary

Motivated and results-driven Senior Graphic Designer with 8 years of experience creating impactful visual solutions across print, digital and large-format design. Known for a calm, steady demeanor under pressure to solve design challenges while meeting client goals. Skilled in Adobe Creative Suite, typography, layout and brand development with a proven track record of leading projects that elevate brand recognition and visual engagement. Passionate about visual storytelling that drives business growth and connects with audiences on a deeper level.

Professional Experience

CSR/Project Manager

May 2026 – Present

Envision3, Bloomington, IL

- Direct and coordinate over 100+ end-to-end print projects, collaborating with clients, sales, estimating, production, vendors, and logistics to manage pricing, specifications, production schedules, and on-time delivery
- Manage customized print projects including flyers, mailings, business cards, catalogs, brochures, and posters, developing efficient production plans while ensuring quality, accurate specifications, and strong client satisfaction
- Coordinate cross-functional production workflows by creating accurate job tickets, processing purchase orders, monitoring project status, and communicating timely updates to clients, vendors, and internal teams throughout the production process to ensure projects are completed accurately, efficiently, on schedule, and to client expectations

Freelance Graphic Designer/Illustrator

February 2018 – Present

Upwork, Chicago, IL

- Direct graphic design strategy across a diverse Upwork client portfolio, clearly communicating pricing, design workflow, progress updates, and deadlines to ensure strong client satisfaction and on-time project delivery
- Executed over 30+ successful, remote projects for diverse client needs ranging from graphic flyers, logos, business cards, catalog booklets and posters of high-quality visuals

Graphic Designer/Marketing Coordinator

April 2021 – November 2025

The Wilbert Group/Marmon, Broadview, IL

- Developed visually compelling large-scale print and digital displays for national conventions such as NFDA (National Funeral Directors Association) and ICCFA (The International Cemetery, Cremation & Funeral Association) balancing creativity with tight production timelines to further bring brand awareness to all the Wilbert Divisions
- Executed integrated print advertising and trade show branding for the SiPrecast Division, including custom feather and tent banners, contributing to a 40% increase in brand visibility and improved attendee engagement at major industry events
- Partnered with Wilbert licensees to design and deliver fully customized, modular slat-wall graphic systems for funeral home display rooms, providing flexible, high-quality visuals solutions tailored to individual client needs
- Conceptualized and produced print, digital and e-newsletter visuals including Memorial Monuments ad campaigns, marketing collateral, the bi-yearly Cremation Choices print and digital catalog, and monthly licensee email communications to strengthen brand consistency and increase audience engagement

Graphic Designer

September 2017 – April 2020

JS Paluch, Franklin Park, IL

- Produced high-volume daily print advertisements for business owners, achieving nationwide distribution in 4,000+ church bulletins and significantly expanded brand visibility across multiple markets
- Engaged with and followed up with 20+ clients weekly to produce tailored ad designs - driving business promotion efforts and ensuring timely delivery of high-quality marketing materials
- Conceptualized and delivered print and web branding materials for over 50+ churches with a successful rebranding launch and strengthening parish identity across multiple communities

Junior Graphic Designer
Mosbrook Design, Riverside, IL

February 2017 – August 2017

- Designed print and digital graphics for 20+ high-end clients across healthcare, retail, business, and nonprofits - elevating brand presentation and delivering versatile visual assets across diverse industries
- Conducted rigorous quality-control reviews across print and digital content - verifying spelling, grammar, formatting and consistency to guarantee polished, error-free deliverables that uphold high standards of professionalism and brand integrity

Junior Graphic Designer
Studio/lab, Chicago, IL

August 2016 – October 2016

- Developed and implemented office-space branding and environmental signage for an industrial-supply client - delivering cohesive collateral that reinforced brand identity and improved spatial experience
- Created and delivered strategic logo iconography that strengthened brand presence and helped drive measurable uplift in website user engagement

Design Specialist
School of Public Health, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

October 2014 – May 2016

- Streamlined and managed content migration for UIC School of Public Health - transferring and relinking all website content in Drupal to ensure updated layout, accurate site structure and seamless user experience
- Received, handled and resolved 20+ daily requests within the department for front-end development revisions to the UIC School of Public Health website for image, text, and news updates to support ongoing communications

Office Assistant
Department of Disability & Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL

January 2013 – May 2016

- Designed promotional material reaching across 150 Sibling Leadership Network members, sibling advocates and sponsors at the bi-yearly National Conferences which resulted in a 30% increase in participation and enhanced engagement
- Collaborated and took initiative with the SLN project manager for the design conception and creation of logos and various document compositions to further the mission of the Sibling Leadership Network
- Executed and directed video editing for eight high-engagement videos for the Sibling Leadership Network boosting their Youtube presence and reached over 100+ subscribers

Education

Bachelor of Design in Graphic Design
University of Illinois at Chicago, School of Design

May 2016

Associate in Arts Degree
Wilbur Wright College

May 2012

Skills

Adobe Creative Suite, Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Design Concepting, Print & Digital Design, Design Thinking, Design Branding, Microsoft Teamwork, Microsoft Office Suite, Powerpoint, Excel, Wordpress, Team Collaboration, Adaptability, Deadline-Driven, Visual Communication, Advertising & Campaign Design, Problem Solving, Deadline Management

Awards

UIC Michael Glass Memorial Award for Graphic Design
Wright Chapter of Local 1600 Student Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence
Wilbur Wright College Environmental Club T-Shirt Design Winner

May 2016
April 2011
April 2010