

Joe Kucharski

Costume Designer

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Creative problem solver with a strong background in design and management of large-scale costume projects and events. Active collaborator, excels in visual, written, and oral communication. Strategic leader, adept at guiding a diverse team.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SENIOR COSTUME DESIGNER | WALT DISNEY IMAGINEERING | 05.2016 - PRESENT

- Design and creative oversight of entertainment, character, and operational (uniforms) costumes for international parks, resorts, and special events
- Negotiate creative, functional, and legal requirements of costumes and uniforms between creative and operational executives
- Formal presentations to top level stakeholders, including WDI, Parks & Resorts, and franchise executive partners
- Actively collaborate with franchise partners, including Marvel Studios, Lucasfilm, Pixar, The Disney Channel, Disney Consumer Products, and Disney Corporate Brand

EDITOR | TYRANNYOFSTYLE.COM | 05.13 - PRESENT

- Creator and lead writer of Tyranny of Style, a website dedicated to costume design and the language of clothing (146k unique visitors in 2016)
- Invited freelance writer for Stage Directions Magazine, ClothesOnFilm.com
- Quoted in Salt Magazine (Condé Nast), *The Art and Practice of Costume Design*, *3D Printing Basics for Entertainment Design*
- Invited speaker and moderator at Comic-Con International, Sourcing at MAGIC, United States Institute of Theatre Technology (National Conference), Costume Society of America (National Symposium), Indiana University

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR | BAYLOR UNIVERSITY | 05.2014 - 05.2016

CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY | 05.2012 - 05.2014

- Managed undergraduate costume department, including Costume Shop Foreman, costume assistants, and wardrobe crews
- Courses taught:
 - Intro to Design, Costume Elements, Costume Design, Costume History, Costume Construction- Draping & Patterning, Costume Crafts, Makeup Design

PROJECT MANAGER | CUSTOM CHARACTERS, INC. | 06.2010 - 12.2011

- Managed character costume development projects for major studio clients:
 - Universal Studio's HOP, Despicable Me, Superstar Parade
 - DreamWorks' Megamind, How To Train Your Dragon, Shrek
- Established and maintained vendor relations

WARDROBE COORDINATOR | THE DISNEYLAND RESORT | 05.2004 – 09.2005

- Managed costumes for entertainment atmosphere groups, cavalcades, and special events, including budgeting, purchasing, inventory and quality control.
- Select Projects Managed:
 - *50th Anniversary Kick-Off Event*, 50 Trumpeters Unit
 - *Candlelight*, Christmas Event featuring Marie Osmond
 - *Oprah's Dreams Come True*, Special Event
 - Various Corporate Parties and Events
 - Disneyland Atmosphere Groups- Main St, Frontier land, New Orleans

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP | WESTERN COSTUME, RESEARCH LIBRARY | 2011

- Historic research for film and television

EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM | THE DISNEYLAND RESORT | 2005

- Advanced training in leadership techniques for management

EDUCATION

Masters of Fine Arts in Costume Design	University of California, Irvine	2012
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Costume Design	Shenandoah University	2009

REFERENCES

Holly Poe Durbin

Professor, Head of Costume Design
University of California, Irvine
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Salvador Perez

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President
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Ryan Rhodes

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