

# BRIAN MICHAEL BUIRGE

*Visual Communication Designer*

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## EDUCATION

*Kent State University*  
KENT, OHIO  
August 2010 – Present  
Master of Fine Arts Candidate  
4.0 GPA

*Kent State University*  
KENT, OHIO  
August 2004 – December 2008  
Bachelor of Fine Arts in  
Visual Communication Design  
3.63 GPA – Magna Cum Laude

*Osaka Shoin Joshi Daigaku*  
OSAKA, JAPAN  
Summer 2006  
International Study Abroad  
Certificate of Language Study  
4.0 GPA

## ACCOLADES

*Gold Addy Award*  
2009 AKRON ADDY AWARDS  
Moving Minds RTA Poster Series;  
Via Glyphix

*Silver Addy Award*  
2009 REGIONAL ADDY AWARDS  
Moving Minds RTA Poster Series;  
Via Glyphix

*Excellence in Typography*  
2008 VCD SENIOR SHOW  
Graduating Portfolio

*Outstanding Achievement*  
2008 INTERACTIVE  
MEDIA COUNCIL AWARD  
Kent State University School  
of Visual Communication Design  
Web site;  
Via Glyphix

## EXPERIENCE

*Kent State University*  
KENT, OHIO  
August 2009 – Present  
Adjunct Professor responsible for working with sophomore, junior and senior-level students; taught design and technology classes covering the topics of motion graphics, foundation-level web site design (including planning, design, and programming HTML + CSS), and Adobe CS applications.

*Wall-to-Wall Studios*  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
August 2009 – Present  
In-house and remote freelance designer. Contributed to design, illustration, content development, and strategy for print and web communications. Worked closely with staff to develop solutions for a variety of projects and companies including: the Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History, The Children's Museum of South Dakota, Carnegie Mellon University, The Gettysburg Foundation, and The American Museum of Natural History

*Flourish Inc.*  
CLEVELAND, OHIO  
March 2009 – July 2009  
Freelance designer primarily responsible for art direction, design and concept development for clients; contributions included: rebranding The Music Settlement, packaging design for BlondersHome, and advertising and marketing materials for Cleveland State University; also gained valuable experience with on-location photoshoots

*Wall-to-Wall Studios*  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  
May 2007 – August 2008  
Intern primarily responsible for print design, concept and production; also gained valuable experience with interactive design conceiving, corporate identity development and client interaction

*Glyphix*  
KENT STATE UNIVERSITY, OHIO  
August 2007 – May 2008  
Designer responsible for concept, design and production of print and web materials for on-campus groups and off-campus businesses; also responsible for IT of the Glyphix lab

*Self-Defense Instructor*  
NORTH ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE HIGH SCHOOL  
Winter 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2006  
Responsible for assisting Physical Education teachers in the development and implementation stages of a high school martial arts/self-defense curriculum; assisted teaching high school students basic self-defense concepts

## ACTIVITIES

*Chito-ryu Karate-do*  
YOSEIKAN KARATE DOJO  
2000 – Present  
Assistant Instructor; currently hold the rank of 3<sup>rd</sup> degree black belt

*Koseido-ryu Jiu-jitsu*  
ALLEGHENY COUNTY BUDO-KAI  
2003 – Present  
Currently hold the rank of 1<sup>st</sup> degree black belt

*Kent State Okinawan Karate Club*  
KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  
2004 – 2010  
Senior Instructor and club manager responsible for teaching bi-weekly classes

## INTERESTS

I enjoy outdoor activities when not training in martial arts or practicing design. I enjoy camping, winter camping, caving and rock climbing.

When time allows I have a keen interest in cooking and the culinary arts. I enjoy making recipes, trying to figure out recipes from restaurants and experimenting with developing my own.

Stemming from my interest in martial arts, I have strong interest in both contemporary and traditional Japanese and Okinawan cultures. This interest prompted me to begin the study of the Japanese language in college which ultimately lead to my taking part in a study abroad program in Osaka, Japan during the summer of 2006. I continue to practice both written and spoken Japanese in my spare time.