

# MIKE THOMPSON

---

Brooklyn Park, MN  
[thompsonmike.com](http://thompsonmike.com)

[linkedin.com/in/thompsonmikemn](https://www.linkedin.com/in/thompsonmikemn)

612.695.9150  
[contact@thompsonmike.com](mailto:contact@thompsonmike.com)

## GRAPHIC DESIGNER

**Transform Complex Ideas into Memorable Visual Stories That Generate Engagement by Blending Strategic Design Thinking, Collaborative Execution, and End-To-End Creative Delivery**

Detail-driven leader, translating abstract concepts into compelling art that resonates with audiences. Leverage sharp attention to detail to guide design from initial concept through production and market launch. Trusted partner to cross-functional teams, combining thoughtful communication, disciplined project management, and clear understanding of scope and timelines to consistently supply engaging, polished solutions across print, digital, and animation platforms.

### Core Competencies:

- **Brand Identity & Visual Systems**
- **Packaging & Product Design**
- **Illustration & Digital Art**
- **Video Editing & Post-Production**
- **Motion Graphics & Animation**
- **Production Design & QA Standards**
- **Photography & Image Manipulation**
- **Workflow Optimization & Process Documentation**

### Technical Skills:

Adobe (Acrobat, Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere, After Effects)  
Affinity | Canva | Procreate | CapCut | Microsoft 365 Suite | Jira

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### RENAISSANCE LEARNING

2016 – 2025

#### Manager, Book Production

2021 – 2025

- Consistently achieved and exceeded quarterly production targets, surpassing goals by up to 25% through disciplined planning and execution.
- Analyzed workflow efficiency and eliminated process redundancies, increasing overall production output by 30%.
- Established and enforced end-to-end quality standards across production workflows, cutting QA error rates by 50%.
- Championed quarterly professional development and cross-training initiatives, empowering team self-sufficiency, balancing workload distribution, and strengthening operational resilience.

#### Content Specialist

2016 - 2021

- Designed and produced multiple public-domain book series, expanding digital library and enriching student learning experience.
- Identified, documented, and reported critical production errors and QA issues, safeguarding high-quality standards for children's educational content.

**RENAISSANCE LEARNING** (Continued)

- Crafted detailed, illustrated workflow guide to standardize processes, accelerating production onboarding and training.
- Created engaging short-form animations to promote myON library selections, boosting content visibility and user engagement.

**INVENTIV DESIGNS**

2013 – 2015

**Creative Designer**

- Built branding, packaging, and marketing assets for major new product launch distributed nationwide.
- Produced high-impact product photography and digital enhancements for online listings, elevating visual appeal and customer engagement.
- Served as camera operator, editor, and motion graphics artist for DIY video series covering deck restoration and garage floor installation, empowering customers to confidently use and adopt products.

**FREELANCE ARTIST**

2009 – Present

**Graphic Design, Illustration, Motion Graphics**

- Constructed 50+ original designs in 2025, translating artwork into physical products (keychains, stickers, buttons) and generating 500+ sales.
- Produced 2 animated short films for 3-time GRAMMY Award-winning band Train which was incorporated into 2010 concert tour performances.
- Designed cover art for 2023 BIBA Award-winning book *The Automaton* by Ian Young.

**EDUCATION****Bachelor of Science (BS)**, Media Arts & Animation, The Art Institutes International Minnesota**VOLUNTEER WORK****MusicLink Foundation:** Supplied graphic design and branding for Pedals for Pianos fundraiser