

CHRIS McCRAY RESUME

2/26/16

PRESENTED TO
Cultural Arts Division Attn: Art in Public Places 201 East 2nd Street Austin, TX 78701

Education

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN // 2008

MFA, Industrial Design

VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY // 1996

BFA, Interior Design

Work Experience

MCCRAY & CO. // Austin, TX // 2011-Present // Principal

McCray & Co. is a small, hands-on interior design firm rooted deep in the heart of Austin, Texas. We approach each space with a holistic view, so that the end result is collaborative and as unique as each one of our clients. At McCray & Co, we like to practice what we call, "responsible design": working with local vendors and craftspeople to produce each project. It's good for the environment, good for Austin, and best of all – good for our people. Our client list includes LENOIR, The Uchi Group, Tito's Vodka, Odd Duck, The Noble Sandwich, Ramen Tatsu-Ya, Bartlett's, and Stiles Switch.

COLAB, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY // Syracuse, NY // 2008-2011 // Executive Director

COLAB, short for "Collaboration Laboratory," was a Chancellor's Initiative which promoted collaboration between students, colleges, community, and corporations at Syracuse University. The goal at COLAB was to use the methodology of design thinking to generate new and effective solutions to wicked problems.

CHRIS McCRAY DESIGNS // Richmond, VA // 1998-2006 // Founder + Creative Director

Chris McCray Designs was a multifaceted design firm in Richmond, Virginia, with projects ranging from high-end interior design to branding, furniture design, systems and experience design.

VCU, RISD, SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY // 1998-2011 // Adjunct Professor

Over the course of the past decade, Chris served as a part-time, adjunct professor in the design departments of three prominent arts universities.

Special Projects

TARGET CORPORATION // Minneapolis, MN // 2006-2007

While at the Rhode Island School of Design, Chris worked as part of a multidisciplinary team to do research and development on a line of "back to school" products for Target.

QUIRK GALLERY // Richmond, VA // 2005-2006

Chris was commissioned to create two pieces of artwork for exhibition at Quirk Gallery: one, a modern chandelier (which the gallery purchased from him), and one, a modern, flat-pack doghouse.

Public Art Experience

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES PANEL // Austin, TX // 2014-Present // Current Vice Chair

Chris joined Austin's Art in Public Places Panel in 2014 and has served as the vice chair since 2015. Projects he has worked on include the Downtown Wayfinding Project, the Terminal Expansion Project, the University Hills Library Project, and TEMPO.

CHERRYWOOD ART FAIR // Austin, TX // 2014 & 2015

Chris has been a juror for the Cherrywood Art Fair, a program of the Chula League, for the last two years.

BUS STOP INSTALLATION // Syracuse, NY // 2010

Chris worked with an architectural graduate student at Syracuse University to create an art installation at a bus stop in Syracuse. The intent was to provide shelter and a sense of place to the bus rider.

LOVE LETTERS TO SYRACUSE // Syracuse, NY // 2010-2011

As Executive Director at COLAB, Chris worked with his team and the Near West Side Initiative to bring artist and sign painter Steven Powers to Syracuse to create several murals on a train bridge that marked the boundary between a poor and an affluent section of Syracuse. The mural was intended to be a metaphorical bridge between the neighborhoods and enhance the community. A video about the project can be viewed here: <http://vimeo.com/15432124>

THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH FUND // New York, NY // 2006-2007

Chris worked with a team to develop oversized outdoor sculptures of medical devices (tongue depressors, inhalers, stethoscopes) to build awareness of The Children's Health Fund. The pieces were designed and fabricated to be moved around various locations in Manhattan.

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF RICHMOND // Richmond, VA // 2005

Chris was commissioned to design a permanent installation for The Children's Museum of Richmond. He created a bench that rang with Austrian cowbells when someone rocked back and forth on it. The purpose was to delight.

Other Special Qualifications

My background in industrial and interior design, in academia, and in other cities help me bring a different lens to the public art selection and installation process. Additionally, I have a strong background in construction project management and am well-versed in construction methodologies, the permitting processes in Austin, and "construction speak." Over the course of my years as a designer, I have worked with many architects, builders, landscape architects, engineers, artists, and sign painters. I like to take a collaborative approach to any project I work on.