



Phone:

740-462-2725

Email:

Samcookartanddesign
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Website:

Samcookartanddesign.
com



Sam Cook

Graphic designer and visual artist with experience in branding, illustration, digital and traditional art, and client-based design projects. Skilled in developing creative concepts from initial brainstorming and sketches through revisions and final production-ready artwork. Brings a multidisciplinary background in graphic design, fine art, and digital marketing.

EDUCATION

Mount Vernon Nazarene University — Mount Vernon, Ohio

Bachelor of Arts, Double Major in Graphic Design and Visual Art | 2025

Dean's List, 2022, 2023 & 2024 • Alpha Chi Honor Society

International Art Study — Greece & Italy | Spring 2023

Short-term, faculty-led academic program completed for degree credit, focused on art, architecture, and visual culture.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Sam Cook Art and Design

Owner / Graphic Designer & Artist | May 2025–Present

- Create custom graphic design and original artwork for individuals, small businesses, universities, organizations, and clubs, including logos, illustrations, signage, branded merchandise, apparel, and promotional materials.
- Manage client projects from initial consultation and concept development through sketches, drafts, client feedback, revisions, and final delivery.
- Contracted by Mount Vernon Nazarene University to restore sculptural figures in the South Main Plaza Dog Fountain, independently preparing surfaces, matching the original artwork, and selecting and mixing colors to preserve the installation's established appearance.
- Create original paintings, drawings, and digital artwork and develop production-ready designs for apparel, merchandise, signage, and other branded products.
- Market the business through a portfolio website, social media, art shows, referrals, and self-created promotional content.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University

Gallery Assistant | May 2024–August 2024

- Collaborated with artists, faculty, students, and gallery staff to install and deinstall exhibitions, including handling and hanging artwork, determining placement, preparing labels, and adjusting lighting.
- Assisted with gallery events and receptions, including setup, signage, promotion, refreshments, guest assistance, and cleanup.
- Served as a gallery attendant, independently overseeing the gallery during assigned hours, welcoming visitors, answering questions and phone calls, and providing information about current exhibitions.
- Maintained the gallery reception area and ensured exhibition information, promotional cards, and visitor materials were organized and readily available.

Mount Vernon First Church of the Nazarene

Janitor | March 2022–Present

- Independently maintain assigned areas within a 50,000+ sq. ft. facility, prioritizing cleaning, sanitation, restocking, and facility needs around daily operations and programming.
- Manage an established supply and equipment budget, track spending and inventory needs, and coordinate purchasing requests and receipt of supplies.
- Prepare and reset spaces for church services, weddings, funerals, youth programs, and large multi-day events, adapting work schedules to meet changing facility needs.
- Maintain task schedules and detailed checklists to ensure consistent completion of responsibilities and provide clear instructions for substitute staff.



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SELECTED EXHIBITIONS, PUBLICATIONS, & PROJECTS

- 2025 | CrowFest 2025 — Mansfield Art Center, Mansfield, Ohio
Two works selected for exhibition; Emerge received the Best Use of Materials Award.
- 2025 | Myths and Perception — Senior Art Exhibition, Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Solo senior exhibition featuring nine original works across printmaking, mixed media, drawing, painting, sculpture, and immersive installation.
- 2025 | Synergy — Senior Graphic Design Exhibition, Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Group senior exhibition featuring a multidisciplinary portfolio of web design, branding, packaging, advertising, publication and poster design, illustration, and promotional collateral.
- 2024 | Penmarks — Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Original artwork selected for publication.
- 2023 | MVNU Student Art Exhibition — Schnormeier Gallery
Two original works selected for exhibition.
- 2023 | VBS Mural — Mount Vernon First Church of the Nazarene
Designed and painted an immersive 1980s-themed mural spanning both sides of an 80-foot hallway, incorporating fluorescent elements designed to glow under UV lighting.
- 2023 | Penmarks — Mount Vernon Nazarene University
Original artwork selected for publication.
- 2021 | Pop-Up Group Exhibition — Gund Gallery, Kenyon College
Participated in a group exhibition featuring original artwork selected for publication
- 2019 | Game Room Mural — Mount Vernon First Church of the Nazarene
Volunteer collaborative project transforming a game room into an immersive space-themed environment with hand-painted fluorescent artwork designed for visibility under UV lighting.

CERTIFICATES, ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES

- HubSpot Academy Certifications
SEO • SEO II • Digital Advertising • Social Media Marketing • Digital Marketing • Content Marketing • Email Marketing
- Stukent Simternship Certificate | 2023
- Community & Volunteer Involvement
Volunteer experience with Fostering Hope, The Father's Table, children's ministry, Girl Scouts, and other community and church-based programs.

SKILLS

Design & Creative: Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign), Procreate, illustration, digital and traditional art, branding, layout and composition, typography, concept development, brainstorming, sketching and drafting

Design Process: Client consultation, creative research and inspiration, idea development, preliminary sketches, draft development, incorporating client feedback, revisions, final artwork preparation

Marketing: Social media content, promotional design, branding materials, digital advertising, SEO, content marketing

Professional: Client communication, project management, organization, problem-solving, collaboration, independent work, presentation development