

Connor Young

(he/him/his)

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Professional Summary

I am a dynamic and innovative outdoor product designer and developer with a passion for the outdoor industry. I specialize in color design, product management, and multi-disciplinary collaboration. With a unique educational foundation in Outdoor Product Design & Development, I bring a blend of creativity and technical expertise to any team. I've honed skills in design research, trend forecasting, palette creation, and managing complex design projects from concept to development, to market placement. My hands-on approach to improving processes and fostering cross-functional teamwork has consistently driven successful product launches and enhanced operational efficiency. Passionate about the outdoors and dedicated to sustainability, I am eager to contribute to innovation and environmental stewardship.

Relevant Skills & Experience

Color Designer + Lab Dip Manager, Cotopaxi

Salt Lake City, UT

Mar. 2022 – Jul. 2024

- Executed all necessary color cad iterations for seasonal milestones
- Collaborated in trend forecasting, palette creation, and visual storytelling
- Maintained all color files: Visual Line Plan, Color Maps, Master Color Library, Trim Catalog
- Managed entire lab dip request, assessment, and vendor communication process
- Overhauled lab dip system by building comprehensive data tracker and streamlining SOP
- Endeavored in tandem with textile, material, design, development and merchandising teams in all GTM operations.

Product Manager, HydroJug

Ogden, UT

Apr. 2021 – Nov. 2021

- Oversaw soft/hard good development and sample approvals for production
- Expanded product offering from 15 to more than 100 SKUs in 6 months
- Tracked product designer output and ensured the team adhered to timeline goals
- Communicated daily with departmental stakeholders and overseas factories to continuously build a better, more sustainable product/process
- Drafted and implemented strict quality control measures and supplier accountability relations
- Led monthly innovation and market research meetings and initiatives.

Project Coordinator, Little Unicorn

Logan, UT

Feb. 2019 – Apr. 2021

- Worked in tandem with Creative Director to bring products to market
- Developed and implemented an efficient multi-step design process
- Oversaw material sourcing and textile testing for quality compliance
- Spearheaded the GOTS Certification for Little Unicorn's first organic line of products
- Communicated regularly with all departments and with overseas factories
- Managed multiple design project timelines simultaneously
- Organized and inspected all product samples for pre/post production consistency

Summer Intern, Alpine Innovations

Lehi, UT

Summer 2018

- Monitored master product listing database
- Led social media and internet marketing campaigns

- Evaluated product development and manufacturing

Sales Associate, Al's Sporting Goods

Logan, UT

Sept. 2015 - Jan. 2018

- Provided exemplary customer service across several departments
- Gained extensive product knowledge to successfully train 10+ employees
- Assisted with fitting and selling all types of ski, snowboard, and camping equipment

Summer Intern, Rose Anvil

Logan, Utah

Summer 2017

- Envisioned and laid design groundwork for industry-changing camera harness
- Mastered skills in crafting and sewing with fine leather
- Aided in sales at craftsmen fairs and trade shows

Retail Associate, Idaho Water Sports

Burley, ID

May 2007 - Feb. 2013

- Trained and earned various product/technician certifications to best assist customers
- Performed custom gear and equipment fittings daily including skis, boots, outerwear, etc.
- Led floor display and store set projects with successful organization and merchandising.

Leadership & Service

Course TA, History of Outdoor Products, USU

Logan, UT

2016 -2019 Spring Semesters

- Graded assignments, guided students, and taught assigned lectures

Executive Vice President, Outdoor Industry Student Assoc.,

Logan, UT

Sept. 2016 - Sept. 2018

- Cultivated networks and connections between OISA members and industry representatives

Religious Missionary, LDS Volunteer,

Belém, Brazil

Feb. 2013 – Mar. 2015

- Learned to speak Portuguese fluently and provided various forms of service for Brazilian natives

Skillset & Proficiencies

Microsoft Suite Asana Illustrator SCRUM Color Theory Coloro & Pantone

Sewing Textile Sciences Retail Sales Technical Gear Fitting Multidisciplinary

Attributes and Interests

Diligent Trustworthy Innovative Collaborative

Concert-goer Film Photography Alpine Skiing Watersports

Education

B.S. Degree, Outdoor Product Design & Development;
Organizational Communications Minor
Utah State University, Logan UT

May 2020

GPA 3.89