

THOMAS VOLLARO

Portfolio: <http://www.vollaro.com/folio>

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EXPERTISE

- **Information Architecture & User Interface Design:** Requirements gathering, task analysis, site diagrams, navigation design, wire-frames, paper and interactive prototyping, contextual inquiry, use cases, personas and scenarios
- **Usability:** Heuristic evaluation, cognitive walkthroughs, user testing, quantitative and qualitative data analysis
- **Graphics & Animation:** Freehand sketching, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Premier and InDesign, Visio, Flash, 3D Studio MAX / VIZ, AutoCAD and Architectural Desktop
- **Web Design:** Dreamweaver, Apache, IIS, HTML, VRML/X3D, ASP, PHP, SQL, XML, Java and Javascript

EDUCATION

- **University of Michigan.** Master of Science in Information, specializing in Human-Computer Interaction. Graduated April 2003
- **New Jersey Institute of Technology.** Bachelor of Architecture. Graduated with Honors, May 1997

RELEVANT COURSEWORK AND PROJECTS:

- Principles of Virtual Reality: Development of a VR training application for Habitat for Humanity.
- Evaluation of Systems and Services: Usability evaluations of an information kiosk.
- Information Visualization: Re-design of Proquest topic-finder.
- User Interface Design: Design of a family-friendly graphical user interface for email.

PUBLIC SERVICE

- Habitat for Humanity: Volunteered for over seven years in Newark, Paterson, NJ, and Ann Arbor, MI
- Michigan Mentorship Program: Provided technology mentorship to Ann Arbor, MI teens in 2002

IMAGE PUBLICATION CREDITS:

- Anders, Peter. Envisioning Cyberspace. McGraw-Hill, 1999. pp. 96-97.
- Dodge, Martin and Rob Kitchin. Atlas of Cyberspace. Addison-Wesley Pub Co, 2001. p. 190.
- Mappa Mundi Magazine - Map of the Month Oct. 1999:

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Information Architect, Community Connect, Inc. New York, NY from October 2004 – Present

- Wrote use cases, personas, and detailed scenarios
- Developed detailed sitemaps, wireframes, and interaction flows using Visio
- Created custom stencils, templates, and macros in Visio to facilitate wireframing process
- Contributed to brainstorming, strategy, requirements gathering and design meetings throughout the entire product lifecycle
- Planned, created, and led usability tests

IT Strategist, Rockwell Group, LLC New York, NY from September 2003 – April 2004

- Analyzed a variety of competitor websites in preparation for a corporate website re-design
- Researched, planned, implemented, and documented software and hardware solutions including LAN switches, server racks, and database solutions
- Streamlined and documented a variety of existing processes to make digital information easier to access

Information Architect, Soar Technology, Inc. Ann Arbor, MI from May 2002 – August 2003

- Conducted contextual inquiry within the organization and developed information architecture documents, including content inventory, site diagram, and a navigation system
- Ran comparative analyses on a variety of commercial and open-source technologies
- Designed wire-frames, paper mockups and interactive prototypes and used them in usability testing
- Customized an open-source content management system to allow for online annotations
- Wrote, tested and debugged source code using Linux, Apache, MySQL, and PHP
- Conducted research and contributed written content for government proposals

Lead Technologist, Hardy Holzman Pfeiffer Associates New York, NY from June 1997 – August 2001

- Designed and implemented a web-based knowledge management application that allows access to up-to-date accounting data, drawing standards, historic project data, photography, and many other resources
- Developed an information architecture, designed user interfaces, and coded ASP and SQL for the corporate intranet
- Promoted CAD and IT strategies across the organizational hierarchy and on two coasts
- Planned and implemented new software and hardware solutions
- Created 3D models and renderings of architectural projects
- Managed local and wide-area networks for over 120 employees on two coasts

New Jersey Housing Scholar, Habitat for Humanity Newark Inc. Newark, NJ Summer and Fall 1995

- Coordinated on-site volunteer crews ranging from 2 to 20 people
- Used CAD to create a “volunteer friendly” framing plan