BEN WILSON

CURIOUS + CREATIVE STRATEGIST

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In my 20-plus years of digitally-focused agency experience, I've grown from a full-stack developer to strategist to a dynamic, creative, collaborative leader. I've put this curious combination of analytical + creative skills to work to build agencies, grow teams, lead super successful projects and - at the end of the day - find out.

My passions lie in **digging deep, creating** and **collaborating**.

CORE STRENGTHS: Analyzing + Organizing Complex Systems • Translating from Research to Action • Writing, Visualizing + Presenting • Creative Concepting + Collab • Mentoring and Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director of Strategy, VIA Studio

2019 - Present

In 2019, I founded the Strategy department at VIA Studio, becoming Director. As a member of leadership and the head of Strategy, I define and implement strategic practices throughout the agency while serving as lead strategist on numerous critical client projects.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- <u>Kentucky Performing Arts rename/rebrand</u> project management, brand strategy and copywriting
- <u>FirstBuild Forge Ice Machine</u>: Led strategy for super-successful crowdfunding launch of a new product from GE Appliances
- Critical involvement in new business development and partnership management
- Creation of numerous successful strategy processes, including branding, positioning, auditing, and reporting

SENIOR DIGITAL STRATEGIST, VIA Studio

Seeking to expand my skill set and explore the emerging world of digital strategy, I joined VIA Studio in 2013.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

• Led the digitization and launch of <u>mrbostondrinks.com</u> for Sazerac - which resulted in the <u>JUDGES AWARD and GOLD AWARD</u> at the 2017 Louisville AdFed Louie Awards.

2013 - 2019

LEAD DEVELOPER, Power Agency

I was invited to join Power in 2003 as a developer. In that role, I utilized my systems analysis skills to assist project management and new business to specify & create innovative solutions for our clients. In combination with my ability to listen and communicate soon made me a critical part of a quickly growing digital team. In 2009, I was tapped to lead the Power Digital team of a dozen strategists and developers.

Day-to-day, my role included leadership and team management, client interaction, scoping and estimating projects, information design, UX design, strategy and development.

In my **leadership role** with the Power Digital team, I facilitated and managed workflow, designed new processes and developed our in-house talent while developing amazing digital projects.

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS:

- 2013 Louisville AdFed **BEST IN SHOW**-winning experience for GE Energy: <u>Climb Time</u>
- 2013 Gold Addy Award for GE Appliances Monogram.com Kitchen Design App
- Lennox' first mobile application (iOS and Android)
- Lennox Energy Savings Calculator (desktop, mobile)
- Many large-scale website designs: Lennox.com, Interlogix.com, ArmstrongAir.com

Notable clients: GE Appliances, GE Aviation, GE Energy, UTC, Lennox, University of Louisville, Hillerich & Bradsby, Olmsted Parks Conservancy, Commonwealth Bank and Trust

CORVUS DIGITAL SOLUTIONS | Louisville, Kentucky

1999-2003

Systems Analyst / Developer

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE | Louisville, Kentucky

Bachelor of Science, Computer Information Systems (CIS), 2000

TECHNICAL SKILLS + CERTIFICATION

- Google Ads + Analytics Certified / Facebook Blueprint Certified
- Wide experience with many CRM + marketing systems
- Proficient with Google Spreadsheets / Excel, SQL, Data Design + Visualization tools

OTHER WORKS

- Showrunner and Emcee for <u>The Great VIA Speling Bee</u>
- <u>"Designing Content for the Web"</u>, live presentation to City of Louisville employees

PERSONAL NOTES

- Head Coach of Lincoln Performing Arts Elementary Cross Country (2016-present) and serve as a school council parent representative (and frequent volunteer-at-large).
- Active, competitive(?) runner, cyclocrosser, mountain biker, and road cyclist
- Achieved Life Rank, Boy Scouts

2003 - 2013