

# MARK *art* THODE

*Graphic Designer, Photographer & Arts Administrator*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Pipestone Performing Arts Center** • Pipestone, Minnesota  
*Managing Director*  
Day-to-day operations of the theater, grant writing, oversee marketing/promotions, technical director of theater, manage volunteers for regional choir and theater organizations  
June 2018 - Present

**Mark Thode Photography & Design** • Pipestone, Minnesota  
*Business Owner, Photographer, Graphic Designer*  
Wedding Photography, High School Senior Portraiture  
Family Portraiture, Children & Infant Portraiture  
Landscape & Nature Photography, Freelance Graphic Design  
September 2009 - June 2022

## EDUCATION

Bemidji State University, Bemidji, Minnesota  
Design Technology, Bachelor of Science  
Specialization in Digital Print Design  
Production & Digital Design Electronic Delivery  
August 2007 - May 2011, Graduated May 2011

## PRESENTATIONS & EXHIBITS

**Southwest Minnesota Arts Council**  
Graphic Design Gallery, "Skycloth Creative Posters", Spring 2024

**Southwest Minnesota Arts Council**  
Photography Gallery, "Chasing the Light", Spring 2016

**Pipestone Performing Arts Center**  
Photography Gallery, "Insights", October 2013

## INTERESTS & SKILLS

Photography, Graphic Design & Branding,  
Technical Theater, Theatrical Light Design



## REFERENCES

**Mrs. Reggie Gorter**  
Music Educator  
Arts Mentoring Project  
1006 5th Ave. SW  
Pipestone, Minnesota 56164  
605.695.8626 {cell phone}  
reggie.gorter@gmail.com

**Mrs. Linsey Prunty**  
Interior Designer  
LC Design  
Pipestone, Minnesota 56164  
605.645.1742 {cell phone}  
linseyprunty@gmail.com

**Mrs. Rachel VanEessen**  
Photographer/Videographer  
Expressions Portrait Gallery  
507.920.6056 {cell phone}  
raevaness@gmail.com

Mark is a print and identity designer with an introverted disposition and a love of the theater. Long before getting his degree in Graphic Design from Bemidji State University, he began his career in theater working behind the scenes in community theater productions. Fast-forward to the present, he's worked for a newspaper, owned a portrait photography studio for 12 years, has collaborated as a freelance graphic artist on many projects, and has been the director of a performing arts venue for many years. In his spare time, he loves learning and experiencing with theatrical light design, serves on the board of three different non-profit arts organizations, and loves spending time with his two Cocker Spaniels: Bailey and Sheldon. He's fluent in Lorem Ipsum.

**Skycloth Creative** • Pipestone, Minnesota  
*Graphic Designer*  
Design print and digital identities for stories and projects of the stage  
January 2023 - Present

**Pipestone Publishing Co., Inc.** • Pipestone, Minnesota  
*Advertising & Commercial Graphic Designer*  
Design print materials & display advertisements for local businesses & organizations  
Summer 2009 (Intern), Summer 2010 (Intern)  
July 2011 - November 2017

## THEATRE EXPERIENCE

Managing Director • Pipestone Performing Arts Center  
Director • Cats, The Last Five Years  
Producer • Peter Pan, Tarzan, Cats, Into The Woods, Scrooge + More  
Stage Manager • Wizard of Oz, The Music Man, Annie, Peter Pan, Tarzan, Scrooge + More

## ACTIVITIES & INVOLVEMENT

Southwest Minnesota Arts Council Board Member, January 2025 - Present  
Arts & Mentoring Project Vice Chair, January 2017 - December 2026  
Pipestone Performing Arts Center Board Member, June 2014 - August 2025  
Calumet Players Chair, June 2014 - July 2015  
Calumet Players Board Member, June 2011 - June 2014

## AWARDS

**Minnesota News Paper Association Better Newspaper Contest**  
News Photo, January 2018  
**Minnesota News Paper Association Better Newspaper Contest**  
First Place, Feature Photo, January 2017



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