

Robert Boles

**38 Everett Ave.
Akron, Ohio
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330.608.4533

rob@takes.us

What do heavy metal and Nestlé share?

It started when I was the drummer in a heavy metal band. We needed posters and a Web site (and earplugs) so I, not familiar with online work, dove into learning a new skill. I ended up finding a new passion, and ironically, later nights than when I was in the band.

Now I stay up late for clients such as Warner Brothers Records, Nestlé, NBA, NHL, NFL, and Visa.

My route from musician to graphic designer to interactive and new media designer reflects my desire to constantly learn new things. I hold a Master of Arts degree from the [School of Visual Communication Design](#) at Kent State University (studying under AIGA Fellow, J. Charles Walker), where I focused on interactive design and motion graphics, which garnered me a Gold Award and an Award of Excellence from the [University & College Designers Association](#).

Not being the type of person to follow traditional paths, I started my own design service after graduating. My first task was to update the identity system, print and online collateral for [Nosco Pharmaceutical Packaging](#), a national company whose clients include Alcon and Abbott Laboratories. I also began adding music artists to my client roster by contacting people in my network from my five-year stint in my touring band. Eventually this led to beginning work for my current largest freelance client, Warner Brothers Records.

In my current role at [DigiKnow, Inc.](#) in Cleveland, Ohio, I walk the fine line between designer and programmer by switching between art director, designer, animator, Web developer, and JavaScript/XHTML/CSS/ActionScript programmer.

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Recent Work

The Pittsburgh Penguins Web site

<http://www.pittsburghpenguins.com>

Site for Billboard Top 100 artists, The Black Keys

<http://www.theblackkeys.com>

A next-generation stadium seat viewing application

<http://seatviewer.cavs.nba.com>

Site For a Henkel North America Consumer Product, Sumo Glue

<http://www.sumoglue.com>

Viral Marketing site for Hot Pockets Sandwiches

<http://hotpocketsdojo.com>

A joint-venture for Visa and the NFL, a game to teach financial literacy

http://practicalmoneyskills.com/english/at_school/trainingcamp/

A viral game for a Warner Brothers Records artist

<http://takes.us/rkk/memory>

Site for an independent music label

<http://auido eaglerecords.com>

A cross-promotional site for Henkel North America

<http://makingyourmove.com> (Launching May 2007)

Site for a recording studio run by The Black Keys

<http://akronanalog.com> (Launching May 2007)

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Experience

June 2005 – Present

Multimedia Developer, DigiKnow, Inc. Designed and programmed Web sites and online games for various clients in entertainment, tourism, consumer goods, pharmaceutical, and B2B. Clients include Nestlé, Visa, Lincoln Electric, Pfizer, Henkel North America, Ohio Tourism, The Pittsburgh Penguins, The Cleveland Cavaliers, The Cleveland Browns, The Columbus Blue Jackets, The Detroit Redwings, Gold's Gym, Precision Auto, First Energy.

June 2003 – Present

Robert Boles Design. Completed identity, Web and print design work for clients including Warner Brothers Records (Web sites, enhanced CDs and online games for artists The Black Keys, E-40, Lil' Scrappy, Hyphy Movement and Rock Kills Kid), Nosco Pharmaceutical Packaging and Alcon, Epitaph Records, and Diebold.

November 2004 – June 2005

Freelancer, Aquent. Redesigned and programmed the [Goodyear Agriculture Web site](#), among other projects for Goodyear, Dunlop Tires, and Louisiana Pacific. Programmed and offered design support for the [Hitchcock, Fleming and Associates advertising agency corporate Web site](#).

Summer 2002 & 2003

Guest Instructor, KSUCDA Summer Workshops.

Fall 2002

Studio Manager, Glyph[x design studio. Worked with the creative director on scheduling, client contact, staff management, and art direction.

Fall 2001 – Spring 2002

Designer, Glyph[x design studio, Kent State University. Led Projects for The Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, and KSUCDA design workshop programs. Team member for other client projects.

Fall 2001 – Spring 2003

Graduate Teaching Assistant, School of Visual Communication Design, Kent State University. Instructed "Visual Design for Media," a basic design class, and assisted "Basic Studio Skills," a first-year Visual Communication Design class.

Fall 2000 – Spring 2001

Art Director (2 issues), The Burr, Kent State University campus magazine, circulation 10,000. Responsible for design and layout of 56 page magazine.

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Education

Master of Arts, Kent State University, School of Visual Communication Design.
December 2003.

Bachelor of Science, Kent State University, School of Visual Communication Design.
December 2001.

Theodore Roosevelt High School, Kent, Ohio. Graduated 1996 with honors. Member of National Honor Society.

Activities and Awards

American Institute of Graphic Artists, member
Gold Award, University and College Designers Association, 2002
Award of Excellence, University and College Designers Association, 2002
Kent State University Founders' Scholarship
Kent State University Honors Scholarship
Mary Czado Education Fund Scholarship

Skills

Adobe After Effects
Adobe Dreamweaver
Adobe Flash
Adobe Flash Communication Server
Adobe Illustrator
Adobe ImageReady
Adobe InDesign
Adobe Photoshop
Apple Final Cut Pro
Apple iMovie
Microsoft Office

HTML/XHTML
XML/XPATH/XSLT
CSS
JavaScript/AJAX and various toolkits (Prototype.js, Script.aculo.us)
ActionScript (OOP in AS2)
PHP
MySQL